



## The cost of burial is going to increase

BURIAL fees, the cost of swimming, hiring halls and some museum activities will all rise as part of a raft of increased charges for council services in Dudley.

They will come into force for a range of bereavement, leisure centre and museum services across the borough from next month.

The rises have been brought in as the authority continues its battle to meet savings of £27 million during the next three years.

### Effort

Dudley Council said increases are in line with inflation and every effort has been made to minimise the rise in cost.

Some fees have also remained the same as previous years.

Costs for some bereavement services will rise by up to seven per cent. The cost of exclusive right of burial will rise from £1,610 to £1,722 for an earthen grave and from £1,809 to £1,935 for a bricked grave. Cremation costs will rise from £650 to £696.

Environment boss Councillor Hilary Bills said the money would help fund improvements, adding: "Burial fees in Dudley remain very competitive and the lowest in the Black Country despite the seven per cent increase."

## Town venue repair shock

DUDLEY Town Hall will be forced to close until the end of March because of urgent repair work to the ceiling.

Bosses had hoped to reopen earlier but have found out the venue will have to shut for at least three months.

Specialist contractors have been brought in after loose plaster was discovered.

Dudley Council said it was not yet known how much the repair work will cost.

Several events have had to be cancelled, moved or rescheduled.

# GROUP TO TAKE OVER CIVIC HALL

**A COMMUNITY group will take over the running of Brierley Hill Civic Hall from Dudley Council, as part of cost-cutting plans.**

Dudley Council is looking to transfer the day-to-day management of the venue, which attracts thousands of people every year, to Dudley Council for Voluntary Service (DCVS).

Bosses says the move would save the local authority money at a time a squeeze is on local authority coffers and would help increase the number of shows staged at the hall in Bank Street.

It would be on a trial basis for 18 months beginning in February, if approved.

Community groups in the borough that use the hall are currently being consulted on the plans before a final decision is made.

As DCVS is a registered charity, it will be eligible for business rate relief enabling the money saved to be put into attracting and promoting new and bigger shows to increase visitor numbers.

### Discussions

It's not yet known how much the move will save the council, which needs to make savings of at least £27 million during the next three years, but bosses say it's hoped it could potentially save a 'significant' amount in the future.

Councillor Hilary Bills, cabinet member for environment and culture, said: "We are in discussions with Dudley Council for Voluntary Service about the day-to-day running of Brierley Hill Civic Hall with the council maintaining ownership of the building."

"Community groups in the area are being consulted

By Heather Large

on the proposals before a final decision is made."

She added: "If approved, it will lead to more shows and visitors to the landmark building, via an established and highly regarded community organisation."

"This is all about fulfilling our promise as a community council and looking at smarter ways of delivering excellent services to the public."

In a report, detailing the proposals, Councillor Bills explained: "Initial savings can be made from the ability to claim business rate relief as DCVS is a registered charity, and this saving will allow some reinvestment in marketing and promotions resources for the venue in an attempt to drive new business and usage for the hall."

An average of around 180,000 visitors attend shows at Brierley Hill Civic Hall, Stourbridge Town Hall, Dudley Town Hall and the Cornbow Hall in Halesowen each year.

In the summer, the council took on extra curators to help cope with an increase in bookings.

Brierley Hill Civic Hall is currently the largest theatre in the borough with the biggest stage and an orchestra pit.

## Festive toy joy in store for youngsters



Sainsbury's store manager Kevin Healy with staff and FAST team members alongside hundreds of donated toys

MORE than 180 toys and gifts will be on their way to needy families across the borough thanks to Dudley Council and Sainsbury's supermarkets.

The council's Family and Adolescent Support Team (FAST), who support families who are having difficulties, teamed up with Sainsbury's at Amblecote and Merry Hill to run an annual toy appeal.

Staff and customers donated over 180 toys and gifts towards a Christmas party that was held for the families and children supported by FAST. Those who were unable to attend the party will have their gifts delivered.

Council children's services boss Councillor Tim Crumpton said: "Thanks to the generosity of shoppers and the kind efforts of staff at Sainsbury's we are able to make sure children and young people have gifts and a Christmas party which so many of us take for granted."

### Impressive

Store manager at Sainsbury's Amblecote, Kevin Healy, said: "We thank our customers at Amblecote and Merry Hill once again for getting behind this good cause and donating gifts in support of the impressive work of

Dudley's family and adolescent support team."

The FAST team has been running the appeal since 2004. The team is currently working with 225 families and 410 children up to the age of 16.

The workers help to encourage families and support them through difficult times.

Parents can attend support groups where they can share their experiences with other parents to create strategies to deal with their own situations. The team also provides support for children on the Child Protection Register and works directly with adolescents.

## MP in talks on police station closure

DUDLEY North MP Ian Austin is to meet with Home Office ministers to discuss plans to close the town's main police station to the public.

Labour MP Mr Austin wants to speak to Whitehall bosses regarding his concerns over the closure of Dudley Police Station's public counter.

More than 1000 people have signed a petition launched by the MP against the planned closure.

Speaking at a Home Affairs Committee, Mr Austin urged Home Secretary Theresa May to discuss the station's future. Mrs May promised that she or the Policing Minister, Mike Penning, would meet with him to discuss his concerns.

The station on New Street is one of three in Dudley borough which will close to the public amid £3 million cuts to West Midlands Police. In total 27 front offices will close with more than 90 jobs at risk.

Mr Austin said: "There's huge opposition to these plans in Dudley so I'm pleased that the Home Secretary has agreed to listen to their concerns."

The front counters at Dudley, Stourbridge and Halesowen have been earmarked to shut. Opening hours would be reduced at Brierley Hill.

## Body found after blaze

A WOMAN died in a flat fire in Netherton.

West Midlands Fire Service attended the Wells Court flats on St John's Road on December 9 after reports of a blaze on the fourth floor at around 4.20pm.

The fire was already out on arrival and the woman's body was discovered. Deb Edmonds, of West Midlands Police, said: "Her death does not appear to be suspicious and a post mortem will be carried out in due course."

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# Arsonist jailed after daughter rescued

A WOMAN and her baby daughter had to be rescued by firefighters from an upstairs bedroom window after her partner set fire to their Tivdale home. Sean Morley, who started three fires at the property, has been jailed for five years.

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard how mother and child were woken by 21-year-old Morley as the semi-detached house in Elm Terrace filled with smoke.

Mr Andrew Wilkins, prosecuting, said

a fire had been lit in a wheelie bin by the front door, while others had been started on a table and in a sack of clothing.

Nobody was hurt in the incident at 4am on September 10 last year but it caused £13,000 worth of damage.

The court heard Morley was linked to seven previous fires which he denied responsibility for and had not been prosecuted over, including in his grandmother's house and in a pub toilet.

Mr Tom Walking, defending, claimed that there was accidental cause to two of these. He warned: "There is a real danger in using this kind of evidence, that is both untested and untried, when deciding on the length of the appropriate sentence. He is genuinely sorry. He has lost his partner and lost contact with his daughter."

Morley, now of St Giles Avenue, Rowley Regis, pleaded guilty to arson.



Jailed — Phil Morley

# Gruesome murder — son gets life sentence

## Brew hopping to help charity



Sadler's brewery's Ian King, left, and Chris Sadler launch the new beer with mascot Maac

AWARD-WINNING brewery Sadler's Ales is hoping a re-launch of one of its most popular brews will take off in style to support the Air Ambulance.

The brewery in Lye, which has been brewing ales since 1990, chose to support the Midlands Air Ambulance Service as part of its commitment to giving something back to the community.

The 3.8 per cent ale, which was formally known as Jacks Pale Ale, was re-launched earlier this month under its new name 'Heli Hopper'.

The brewery is donating five per cent of every cask of Heli Hopper sold to the Air Ambulance which will help fund vitally important missions in the region.

Fifth generation master brewer Chris Sadler said: "Following a period of very positive trading, we are expanding our brewery, moving it to a new location in Lye and creating new jobs in the process. "We wanted to celebrate our success by building a relationship with a local charity and I could not think of a better cause than Midlands Air Ambulance."

## A MAN from Kingswinford who murdered and dismembered his father has begun a life sentence.

Nathan Robinson, aged 26, went to 'great lengths' to mislead police before his father William Spiller's body was discovered at his Bournemouth home.

Robinson, of Larch Road, had cut up his father's body and hidden the body parts in plastic storage boxes. He later posed as his father by sending texts from his stolen mobile phone to Mr Spiller's partner and friend.

He was arrested in Pen-snett on June 18 last year, the day after police found his father's body.

### Owed

Prosecutor Nigel Lickley QC said the likely motive was financial, as Robinson owed his father £36,000. He also took almost £8,000 of Mr Spiller's cash, which he used after the killing to go partying with friends.

Police discovered Mr Spiller's remains a month after the killing after receiving a "concern for welfare" call from Mr Spiller's partner Glenys Molyneux .

The jury heard that Robinson and his father had a history of disputes. On May 16, 2013, the day of the murder, neighbours heard arguing, sounds of a struggle and Mr Spiller asking his son to call him an ambulance.

Ms Molyneux welcomed the life sentence, with a minimum term of 30 years.

"The past 18 months have been extremely traumatic for myself and my family, from first receiving the dreadful news of Will's death until the trial which revealed the full horror of what happened that day," she said.

"Will was a loving, caring man. No sentence can bring him back but we are satisfied that the verdict of guilty was the appropriate one for this heinous crime.



Nathan Robinson killed his father and went partying

As a family we would like to thank people for their love and support during this dreadful time. We would also like to thank Dorset Police and the Crown Prosecution Service who worked so hard to bring this case to court and achieve justice for Will."

Detective Chief Inspector John Gately from Dorset Police described it as 'a particularly gruesome murder', adding: "My thoughts go out to Mr Spiller's family and friends. I would like to pay tribute to the investigation team and the forensic team who had to deal with a horrific crime scene."

Robinson had denied murder but admitted manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility. However, prosecutors proceeded to trial and jurors unanimously found him guilty of murder.

# Hall and park car fees are increased

PARKING charges will go up at Himley Hall and Park in the new year, as part of plans to boost council coffers.

Dudley Council says increased charges for parking at the popular estate, which attracts thousands of visitors every year, will come into force from January.

Bosses defended the new pay and display fees as being 'competitive'.

### Longer

The cost of parking for two hours will increase by 50 pence, from £1.10 to £1.60.

People wanting to park for longer, will now have to pay a fee of £1.70, up from £1.60.

It comes as the council looks to make at least £27million of savings over the next three years.

Cabinet member for culture, Councillor Hilary Bills, described it as a 'marginal' increase.

She explained: "As part of the fees review for this year the parking for visitors to Himley Park have gone up marginally to £1.20 for two hours parking which — when considered against other neighbouring country parks — remains extremely competitive."

# Firecrew cut woman free

AN ELDERLY woman was cut free from a car by firefighters after being involved in a crash involving a parked car in Sedgley.

The car was on its roof when emergency crews arrived at the junction of The Vista and Wolverhampton Road.

The female passenger was freed by firefighters from Dudley at around 6pm on December 12.

She was treated by paramedics at the scene with the male driver. Both were not believed to be seriously injured but taken to hospital as a precaution.

## Tunnel visitors

AN open day at the Drakelow Tunnels, near Kiner, attracted people from across the country to visit the Cold War bunkers. Around 100 attended the event, cash going towards the tunnel museum plans and £200 to the Guide Dogs charity.

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**Former surgery becoming offices**

A DOCTOR'S surgery in Stourbridge will be converted to offices after proposals submitted to Dudley Council won approval.

The Worcester Street building had been used for training purposes since services were moved to the new Lion Health Centre.

The building was bought by a private buyer and it is not known when work will begin, although one of the conditions states it must be within three years. Councillor Nicholas Barlow said: "Hopefully it will not be left unused for too long now permission has been granted."

**Threat was not 'terror' related**

A MAN arrested following threats to West Midlands Police which sparked a security alert has been eliminated from inquiries.

Police have now said the threat is not terrorism related and ruled out an attempt to kidnap an officer.

A West Midlands Police spokesman said: "Officers continue to investigate the circumstances behind the call to West Midlands Police but our assessment is that it was not terrorist related, nor is there any credible threat of a kidnap."

**Chance to meet the brewer at pub**

A STOURBRIDGE town centre pub is to hold a mini beer festival featuring ales from a Birmingham brewery next month.

The Chequers Inn in High Street will be offering five beers from Two Towers brewery from January 12 to 18.

One of the Two Towers team will be visiting for a 'meet the brewer' event at the JD Wetherspoon pub on January 12 at 7pm.

**Universal Credit is coming to borough**

BENEFITS claimants in the Black Country will be among the first to start receiving Universal Credit as it starts a nationwide roll out in 2015. The Government is bringing in the single benefit, which replaces the six main benefits and tax credits. Dudley, Halesowen, Stourbridge and Birmingham will be among the first wave.

**High Street gym**

ON New Year's Eve a new gym is opening in Brierley Hill's High Street, Exercise4Less, part of the UK's leading 'budget keep fit chain', will have more than 400 pieces of equipment and is creating 40 jobs.

# Park call for more help from volunteers

VOLUNTEERS are being recruited ahead of a £3.1 million revamp of a park.

Senior heritage ranger Deborah Merrick is looking for people to help out at Mary Stevens Park in Stourbridge.

One of the projects being set up in a wildlife monitoring scheme to discover the different species living in the park.

An events programme for the next six months has also been drawn up.

**Restoration**

The scheme includes the restoration of the listed gates, railings, bandstand and pool as well as the creation of a café in the tea gardens.

Work is due to get under way in the new year.

Ms Merrick said: "We are planning a lot of activities which volunteers will be able to get involved in."

The council received a lottery grant of £2.6m towards the work and has been working with the Friends of Mary Stevens Park on the plans.

Volunteers who can help with the project at Mary Stevens Park can get more information by emailing the ranger at [deborah.merrick@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.merrick@dudley.gov.uk)

# King Street now two-way

A MAIN route through Dudley town centre has reopened to two-way traffic for the first time in 15 years.

The change in priorities in King Street, which took place just before Christmas, was aimed at boosting trade and has been welcomed by shopkeepers. Only buses and taxis had been able to use the route. Motorists wanting to drive from one side of King Street to the other were diverted around Flood Street car parks to the rear of King Street. But now all traffic can use the route and eight extra parking spaces have been provided.

**JLR among best**

JAGUAR Land Rover, which has just opened its £500 million engine manufacturing plant at the i54 business park on the outskirts of Wolverhampton, has been named as one of the best places to work in the UK. Google was first, John Lewis second and JLR fifth.

# Move to end traffic congestion by Christmas



Works at the island on the road at Hagley

COMMUNITY leaders in Hagley say the end of roadworks at a busy junction will be a 'blessed relief' after almost four months of traffic chaos.

Motorists have been facing daily delays at the A456 Kidderminster Road roundabout since a £1 million scheme started by Cala Homes to revamp the junction.

The work began in the summer and was expected to be completed by Christmas Eve.

It will see a new signalling system and crossing points for pedestrians and cyclists installed at the busy roundabout.

It is being done by Cala Homes as part of its Wychbury Fields development for 175

homes, located near the roundabout. The developer wrote to 3,500 residents informing them of the possible disruption ahead of the 26-week scheduled work.

Hagley Parish Council chairman Councillor Steve Colella said: "My sympathy goes to the people living around the traffic island and the people who have to pass through it everyday. It really is an absolute nightmare."

"I understand the work is almost finished. It will be a blessed relief for people when it is finally cleared up."

As well as traffic congestion, Councillor Colella said people living near the site were having to deal with other issues related to

the work. He said: "I've heard of people having pavements near their homes damaged by the heavy vehicles and people being kept up by night-time working."

"There is also the problem of people using nearby roads such as Western Road and Newfield Road to avoid the junction."

Cala Homes said the first phase of homes at the development had 'flown out the door' since its launch this year. The development includes two, three, four and five bedroom homes. Robert Monkman, sales and marketing director, said: "This is a flagship development for Cala so we're delighted with the success of phase one."

# Parents of little miracle Daisy-Mae help baby unit

By Charlie Benton

**THE PARENTS of premature miracle baby Daisy-Mae Little have celebrated her first birthday by raising money to help other mothers and fathers of premature children.**

Daisy-Mae was born three-and-a-half months early in December of last year — weighing just 1lb and 13oz. She spent 12 months in hospital with her mum and dad Jennifer and Wayne, both from Dudley, before she was well enough to go home.

But since then Daisy-Mae has become an online sensation with thousands of people throughout the world following her amazing story, gathering more than 23,000 followers on Facebook.

To celebrate Daisy-Mae's first birthday, mum and dad Jennifer and Wayne, who live in Pensnett, decided to help out parents who find themselves in a similar situation as them by raising money for the premature baby facilities at New Cross Hospital in Wolverhampton.

**Fantastic**

Mr Little said: "It was a really great party and a fantastic evening."

"It was a celebration and us being thankful for Daisy-Mae still being with us."

The delighted father added: "We wanted to raise money to make the facilities at the parent's flats more comfortable."

"We were looked after so well by staff and the facilities were great but we noticed certain things we wanted to improve."

"For example, we were very lucky as I have a good job with the fire service, and we have a car to get around, but many parents in the facility were not that lucky."

"We decided we wanted to put a washing machine in the accommodation to make it easier for them."

The celebration at Blakelands Country House in Bobbington on Saturday was split into two events.

A small event was held for around 30 family and friends to wish Daisy-Mae a happy birthday, followed by a larger social event during the evening.

Firefighter Mr Little said: "We had



At the fundraising evening held at Blakelands Country House and Restaurant in Bobbington to celebrate Daisy-Mae Little's first birthday are, centre, parents Jennie and Wayne with Daisy Mae and the bands Eastwood and the Daisies who performed during the event, which raised around £1,700 for New Cross Hospital in Wolverhampton

around 80 to 90 people turn up and from tickets alone we raised around £900.

"We also had a raffle and altogether on the night I think we raised around £1,700."

The couple are also raising money for the charity Bliss, which helps premature babies,

with their book Little Daisy-Mae: The Girl Who Couldn't Wait, which is available via Kindle and from the [www.oodlebooks.com](http://www.oodlebooks.com) website.

Mr Little said: "It is amazing to look down and see her at this stage of her life,

when a year ago we weren't even sure she would make it through the next hour."

"She is such a happy, positive child which I do think comes from all the prayers and well wishes —which were so thankful for."

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## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



OWING to a door being accidentally left open I spent the night sharing a bed with the cat and was reminded of a crucial difference between dogs and cats. A dog will never sit on your head.

BAH, humbug and off to the big store. It is the duty of every male at this time of year to be dragged up and down tinsel-decked aisles while looking at pointless objects. Consider the following: A window vacuum. A gluten-free sausage-making kit. A small book entitled A Guinea Pig Nativity. You can measure the state of society's development by counting the number of objects we can manage perfectly well without.

THE Daily Telegraph leader column, no less, assures us this week that Kate and William's little boy "will be George VII one fine day." Not if his grandfather beats him to it, he won't. There is still speculation that Prince Charles, on taking the throne, will style himself King George VII. Let us hope we have to wait a very long time to find out.

IS there anything sillier than the claim by UKIP leader Nigel Farage that he was late for a party in Wales as a result of immigration causing traffic jams? Yes, there is. It is the monstrous, head-in-the-sand delusion among so many politicians that the population of the UK can rise from 50 million to 70 million in a single lifetime and cause no problems at all. Voters are tempted by Farage only because they are governed by ostriches.

LIFE imitates art but politics imitates adverts. In the Twix TV commercial, the makers of the chocolate twin-bar have a row and set up separate factories, one producing the left bar, the other the right. Both are convinced their products are totally different but everyone can see they are identical. And so to the interview with shadow chancellor Ed Balls on Today (Radio 4) when Sarah Montague tried, and failed, to establish which government department budgets would be cut by a future Labour government, and by how much. Balls' message is that Labour's cuts will be fair but tough. George Osborne's message is that Tory cuts will be tough but fair. Left bar? Right bar? It's a puzzle, innit? Meanwhile, Sarah Montague's brave but futile attempt to shine a light into Labour's true intentions



should be recorded and shown to schoolchildren everywhere as an example of that useful phrase: "Like trying to nail blancmange to the ceiling."

AFTER a couple of near misses between drones and airliners, the world seems to be waking up to the fact that you can buy drones and fly them anywhere you wish, including into the air intake of a Jumbo jet's engine. Drones are, in effect, camera-guided anti-aircraft weapons available on eBay for a few hundred quid. How did that happen?

I GET a regular stream of mail from a small but noisy group of old codgers complaining about how hard-up pensioners are these days. The suggestion is that there was once a golden age when pensioners had enough money. Remind me. When was that?

A READER overheard this conversation between a stallholder and an English customer ordering a sausage and mustard in the lingo at the Frankfurt Christmas Market in Birmingham. Brit: "Eine Bratwurst mit Senf, bitte ." Stallholder: "No point talking like that, mate. I'm from Sedgley."

BENEFITS Street (C4) returns next year, this time examining the lager-fuelled underclass in Stockton-on-Tees. In response, a local campaign has been launched to promote the town's image. It is called The Positively Stockton-on-Tees campaign, to be known as Psst for short. Seriously.

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Borough primary schools climb table

PRIMARY schools in Dudley climbed to joint 88th place with neighbours Sandwell in the national Key Stage 2 tables, continuing last year's improvement.

A total of 78 per cent of pupils at schools in the borough gained Level 4 or above in reading, writing and maths. The results means Dudley primary schools have moved 16 places up the table.

Top performer was Blanford Mere Primary School in Kingswinford, where all 36 pupils eligible to take tests managed to gain at least Level 4 in reading, writing and maths. The school also had a 100 per cent in pupils making two or more levels of progress in the three subjects between the ages of seven and 11.

Pedmore CE Primary School in Stourbridge was second of Dudley's

primary schools, with 97 per cent of pupils achieving Level 4 in the key subjects.

### Benchmark

In third place was Ham Dingle Primary in Stourbridge, where 96 per cent of pupils managed the benchmark level of achievement.

Sandwell improved its position with 78 per cent of Key Stage 2 pu-

pils achieving benchmark grades.

Its best performing primary school was St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary in Oldbury, where all eligible pupils achieved the benchmark in the three key disciplines.

Timbertree Academy in Cradley Heath grabbed second spot, a massive leap of 42 places from last year, with St Hubert's Catholic Primary in Oldbury climbing to third spot.

# Secondary education — it must do better

**JUST 55 per cent of secondary school pupils in Dudley are attending good or outstanding schools — although the borough's primary school rank among the best in the West Midlands.**

Education bosses have vowed to boost standards at secondary schools after the latest figures were revealed by Ofsted.

By Andrew Turton

But they declared figures that show 84 per cent of pupils attend top-rated primary schools as good news for teachers, parents and children.

Meanwhile, Worcester-shire primary schools, including those for pupils in Wyre Forest, rated top in the Midlands with secondaries only second to Telford and Wrekin in the tables.

Dudley North MP Ian Austin called on officials and teachers to make education the top priority in the Black Country.

He said figures that rank Dudley secondary schools in the bottom three in the West Midlands must lead to improvements.

Mr Austin said: "This report underlines the need for all of us – the government and the council, teachers and parents, employers and the community in general – to make education and skills our number one priority. We have to get behind teachers working hard to improve schools."

According to the new

report, the performance of primary schools across Dudley has improved more than anywhere in the West Midlands over the last 12 months.

Meanwhile, the performance of secondary schools in Dudley has remained the same as last year.

Dudley councillor Tim Crumpton, who is responsible for children's services, said: "This is really good news for schools, teachers, parents and children in the Dudley borough as we have seen improvements here which are bigger than most places across the country."

"We will continue to work hard with our schools to make even more improvements to ensure the primary provision continues to excel and we will work to build on the standards in our secondary schools where more than half of students are already attending good or outstanding schools."

## Director diocese move

THE Rev Canon Jonathan Kimber has been appointed the next director of ministry and discipleship for the diocese of Worcestershire and Dudley.

The 45-year-old is a vicar at St Benedict's Church in Northampton but will move to Worcester to take up his new role. He has been vicar of the church for nine years and completed curate training in the diocese of Peterborough. Rev Kimber said: "I feel delighted and privileged to be joining Worcester diocese at this time, and am very much looking forward to getting know both the place and its people." He will start work in the diocese this Easter.

## Busker's bid for stardom



Hoping to swop a street corner for a studio — Bradleigh Aston busking in Dudley town centre

A MUSICIAN who busks for coins on the streets of Dudley is hoping to win a recording deal.

Eighteen-year-old singer-songwriter Bradleigh Aston, from Lower Gornal, found himself in the running for the Brand New Artist 2015 Awards after entering the competition last month.

He said: "I can't believe I made it this far. I am checking the updated rankings every Friday when they put them up to see whether I have gone up or down. I am ask-

ing family and friends to vote for me as well as at gigs and at college, everybody is being really supportive."

Halesowen College student Bradleigh made it onto long lists of performers throughout the country and eventually onto a shortlist of 25 in the contest run by record label Negart. The prize for winning includes a £5,000 cash prize and a recording contract and, with voting closing just before Christmas, Bradleigh was waiting to hear how he had done.

## Teens can vote for favourite new book

YOUNG bookworms are being urged to nominate their favourite book for an annual competition.

Libraries in Dudley are running the Teenage Book Award 2014 and have selected the finalists with the help of readers. Titles in the running are Dragon Shield by Charlie Fletcher, Half Bad by Sally Green, Taken by David Massey, A Soldier's Friend by Megan Rix, Dandelion Clocks by Rebecca Westcott and A Boy Called Hope by Lara Williamson. Teenagers have until March 13 to pick their favourite.

The award is designed to encourage young people to read more.

Libraries boss Councillor Hilary Bills said: "A big thank you to the young people who have been involved so far in helping to select the top six books in the running. All of the nominated books can be borrowed from any borough library for free so I would encourage as many young people as possible to get borrowing, reading and nominating."

To vote visit [www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/libraries-archives/libraries/children-and-young-people/teen-book-award/voting](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/libraries-archives/libraries/children-and-young-people/teen-book-award/voting) and the winner will be announced in March.

## Classroom in a bungalow

A SCHOOL bungalow will be transformed to provide extra teaching space, under plans lodged with Dudley Council.

Ridgewood High School, in Park Road West, Wollaston, wants to convert the property so it can be used to teach pupils currently taught in a portable classroom.

Headteacher Clive Nutting said: "Utilizing the school bungalow will free up desperately needed space to provide an improved learning environment for small teaching groups of key stage three students."

## Hamper winner

A BRIERLEY Hill customer won a draw for a Christmas hamper at the Dudley Building Society's first estate planning day. Mrs Shirley Hill, who won the hamper has been a society member for more than 20 years and uses the society's Brierley Hill branch.

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## Daylight rapist gets eight year sentence

A MAN who raped a woman in broad daylight in a Rowley Regis street before being chased off by members of the public has been jailed for eight years.

Unemployed Gerald Malcolm, aged 48, met his victim in a library before they went to a pub. The Jamaican national invited her back to his house for another drink but, when the 28-year-old fell ill, he started walking her home.

Members of the public spotted Malcolm having sex with his victim on a grass verge, and one man tried to throw a bowl of water over him. Malcolm, now of no fixed address, fled but the victim could not get up after the attack on Hanover Street.

Police found the woman was more than three times the drink-driving limit, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

Malcolm admitted rape, which happened at around 4pm on April 2, and now faces deportation.

His victim said: "The assault has had a lasting effect on me. I don't know how I got so drunk. I keep thinking that this is my own fault because I was so drunk, but he shouldn't have taken advantage of me."

## Woman dies after collision

AN elderly woman has died after being knocked down on a Kingswinford street.

The 75-year-old was struck by a white Ford Focus near to West Bromwich Building Society on Market Street on December 13 at around 10am.

Paramedics treated Moira May Coulson at the scene and she was taken to hospital where she died, police said.

The driver was spoken to by officers.

Police appealed to anyone who may have witnessed the collision to contact them on 101.

## Christmas beer

THE Green Duck Beer Company in Stourbridge is holding a four-day beer festival over the festive period at the Badelyne Bar in Rufford Road from December 26 to 29, 1pm to 11pm each day. There will be live music as well as real ales from the brewery.

# Nightclub licence revoked due to gang links



Pulse nightclub in Brierley Hill

A NIGHTCLUB that police said had become a haven for notorious gangs has had its licence revoked.

West Midlands Police decided to take action against Pulse nightclub in Brierley Hill following two stabbings and a gunshot in the last year.

Officers had been able to identify several of the club's clients as having ties to Birmingham's Johnson Crew, the Burger Bar Boys and other criminal elements.

A licensing sub-committee at Dudley Council decided to revoke the club's licence.

But licence holder Steve Simpson denied that Pulse was a 'gang club'.

"It has always been a diverse venue," he said. "We have held several under-18 nights and hosted a boxing club."

"The two incidents which did happen are out of people's control. The bigger picture is that these are two incidents out of hundreds of events we have put on at Pulse."

During the hearing, the sub-committee was told a shot had been fired outside the club on Dudley Road on January 25 and a stabbing

had taken place on October 12. It was a further stabbing on November 2 — part of an incident in which three people were taken to hospital — which prompted that latest police action.

Speaking on behalf of West Midlands Police, barrister Andrew Evans said Pulse had developed a tolerance of gang members, who were allowed to enter the club with weapons.

He said: "It is all a question of risk. The police's position is that over the last year this premises,

under the control of Mr Simpson, has become far too closely associated with serious organised crime."

"The police feel unless it is shut someone would get killed this Christmas. The whole place is tainted with a tolerance and a fear of organised crime."

In addition to revoking the licence, the sub-committee extended a suspension of the licence, enacted in November, to prevent the club re-opening following an appeal.

Mr Simpson had 21 days to appeal.

# EDL supporters jailed over violent disorder at rally

**TWO English Defence League supporters from Dudley borough involved in violent clashes with police at a protest rally have been jailed.**

Lee Joshua, of Netherton, clashed with police while on crutches during the disorder in Birmingham city centre last year. He claimed to have 'enjoyed every minute' of violent scenes which left 30 police officers injured. He later posted an image of himself burning a copy of the Koran on Facebook. He was jailed for 16 months.

Jake Hill, of Mill Street, Brierley Hill, was jailed for 22 months and was told by the judge that his involvement in the disorder had been persistent and prolonged.

**Prison for dead mother benefit fiddle**

A 50-YEAR-OLD woman has been locked up after claiming £13,000 in benefits intended for her dead mother.

Linda George failed to tell the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) that her mother had died on April 25, 2012. This led to her receiving income support and carers allowance she was not entitled to between April 30, 2012 and January 20, 2013.

The overpayments were discovered when her mother's death was registered on January 13, 2013 — nearly seven months after she had actually died.

Ms Suki Rai, prosecuting, told Wolverhampton Crown Court that George, of Hinchcliffe Avenue, Coseley, had admitted she had been dishonest when interviewed by the DWP.

Mr Tony Randle, mitigating, said the unexpected death of George's mother had left her shocked, alone and in a 'terrible state'. He called on the court to grant her a community order but she was sentenced to 16 weeks in prison.

## Flag

Around 200 EDL supporters were involved in the violence in the Broad Street and Centenary Square areas in July 2013, which lasted for around two hours. Birmingham Crown Court heard a Muslim prayer cap and a Pakistani flag were set on fire. Police were pelted with slabs and bottles.

Joshua, aged 43, of Highbridge Road, who told police he had consumed ten cans of lager, was said to have been at the front of attempts to break through police lines. Judge Richard Bond was told that Joshua had served eight custodial sentences after amassing 89 previous convictions.

The court heard that Hill, 22, attempted to push a policeman, spat in the direction of another and was part of a crowd which attacked four officers trapped between two vans.

Passing sentence on the men, who admitted violent disorder, Judge Bond said much conduct at the rally had been 'plainly racist and/or anti-Muslim'.

## School choir hit high note with carols



**Pupils from St Margaret's Primary School in fine voice to win best choir at the intu Merry Hill singing competition**

MUSICAL youngsters from a primary school in Halesowen are singing with success after winning the award for best choir at Merry Hill shopping centre's annual carol singing contest.

St Margaret's Primary School in Hasbury scooped the accolade at the centre's Little Voices event. More than 20 schools took part in the contest, which was spread over five days.

Music coordinator, Pam Griffiths, said: "We have competed in the contest for the last few years and we were delighted to be invited back this year."

"We managed to get into the final a few years ago but this is the first time we have ever won."

"It was really special for us because this is the biggest choir we have ever taken to compete."

## Competed

The choir, which is made up of 50 pupils aged from seven to 11, competed against seven other schools in the final.

They sang a number of Christmas

carols, including No War Will Stop Us Singing.

Mrs Griffiths added: "We got a call to say that we had got through to the final which was the next day, so it was a rush to get in contact with parents."

"No War Will Stop Us Singing, is much loved in the school. It is all about children being the voices of the future and spreading peace and good will."

As well as walking away with the award for Best Choir, the school on Hagley Road also won £1,000.

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Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people

money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done."

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people

I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews

ONE thing that maybe should have been on your Christmas list – a pillowcase using technology borrowed from Nasa?

Now maybe you were under the misconception that pillow cases were pretty much one and the same. Ok, some might be polyester, some cotton – maybe silk if you're from Tettenhall – but by and large, there isn't that much technology that goes into them.

Well, our good friends in the old US of A are really pushing the envelope (I think that's what they say across the pond) with their latest development in pillowcase technology.

Completely demolishing the myth that space exploration is an expensive luxury, somebody has used the findings of extra-terrestrial research to come up with a range of pillowcases that look and smell like bacon. Why did nobody come up with this sooner?

"Our bacon-scented pillowcases use state-of-the-art printing technology we stole from Nasa to allow the scent of bacon to permeate your dreams and expand your mind," says the press release.

"That's right, the scent of bacon is embedded in the ink on these specially printed pillowcases," adds the wonderfully understated missive.

If cared for according to the included instructions, the smell will last for six-to-12 months, and can endure multiple wash cycles.

Not only that, sleeping on a machine-washable bacon buttie can also enrich the mind, giving us better dreams and a dramatic rise in intelligence levels according to some of the more bizarre claims.

It also promises easier morning wake-ups and effortless weight loss.

Unless, of course, you eat your pillowcase.

□□□□□

MEMO to local authorities, and other taxpayer-funded bodies. Replacing words with numerals, such as Pathway 2 Change or Plan 4 Life does not make you look trendy, relevant or cool.

It does make you look semi-literate and stupid, though. And is it any wonder that some youngsters leave school barely able to construct a sentence in basic English when the authorities which are supposed to be educating them appear unable to tell the difference between numbers and letters?

□□□□□

MEANWHILE, the British Army will send hundreds of troops over to Iraq in the New Year, to 'pass on the lessons learned in Afghanistan'.

Lessons learned in Afghanistan? The words 'horse', 'bolted' and 'stable door' spring to mind. Perhaps if a previous prime minister had learned the lessons from the past, we would never have sent any troops to Afghanistan in the first place.



MP Gavin Williamson's choice



West Bromwich West MP Adrian Bailey's card



Walsall South MP Valerie Vaz's card



Dudley North MP Ian Austin's card choice



Conservative, Labour and Lib Dem leaders' cards



Walsall MP David Winnick's choice

# House of cards for political Christmas

Differing politician festive card designs show a wide variety of styles as we head towards election year

**FROM the Houses of Parliament in the snow to the drawings of schoolchildren, MPs always try to find their own way of saying Merry Christmas.**

While party leaders such as David Cameron, Ed Miliband and Nick Clegg put themselves on the front of their cards, backbenchers and shadow ministers like to reflect the people they represent.

Some go as far as to organise competitions months in advance among youngsters as they seek the right design.

West Bromwich West MP Adrian Bailey was so keen to get started he launched his competition in June, while temperatures were in the low 20s.

The MP wanted to give every primary school in his constituency the opportunity to get involved.

Nine eventually took him up on the offer and had their youngsters submit their designs. The winning entry was by 10-year-old Mohammed Rezwan Shuvo of Sacred Heart Primary School in Tipton, who painted his school in the snow.

His picture will now feature on the front of Mr Bailey's constituency Christmas cards of which more than 1,000 are being sent to constituents, businesses, places of worship and schools.

Mr Bailey said: "Mohammed's entry was fantastic as were all the entries and it was very difficult to choose a winner."

All the pictures are being displayed in Tipton Library where the majority of the schools took part in the competition.

Another MP who chose a youngster to create his card's image was South Staffordshire's Gavin Williamson.

As Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Prime Minister, he will be sure



The card chosen by Halesowen and Rowley Regis MP James Morris

to send a card to David Cameron. That means Caitlin Oakley, who is in year nine at Wombourne's Ounsdale Primary School, will have her picture of a snowman and snow woman in front of the village maypole on display in 10 Downing Street.

A Christmas card designed by Ellie Durnall of Milking Bank Primary School in Dudley will be finding its way through the letterboxes of hundreds of people, including the Queen, the Prime Minister and the Speaker of the House of Commons, after the youngster won Dudley North MP Ian Austin's Parliamentary Christmas card competition.

Mr Austin was due to present Ellie Durnall with her prize during a carol service at the school after receiving nearly 500 entries, following his invitation to schools. The winning design shows Santa Claus flying over Dudley Castle surrounded by animals.

Jolie-Mai Powell from Cotwall End Primary, Charis Martin from Foxyards Primary School, Ben Jackson from Priory Primary School and Sally Ben-

nett from Straits Primary School were runners up. The cards have been professionally printed in full colour and include the name and school of the winner and three runners up. Prizes include family tickets to Dudley Zoo and the Black Country Living Museum.

Mr Austin said: "Yet again, the standard of this year's entrants has been really high. I loved Ellie's picture of a snow-covered Dudley castle and zoo, which was brilliantly drawn and really showed off our heritage."

James Morris, MP for Halesowen and Rowley Regis, and Margot James, who represents Stourbridge, also got young people to design their cards. Miss James worked with Stourbridge College Art and Design Centre in Brierley Hill. The winner was Aaron-Ryan Samra, studying a one year diploma in foundation studies art and design.

Other MPs go for something that shows where they work. Valerie Vaz, who represents Walsall South, went for an image of a ceiling boss depicting St Catherine from the Chapel of St

Mary Undercroft at the Palace of Westminster. David Winnick, MP for Walsall North, chose one of the Elizabeth Tower, which houses Big Ben.

## Official

David Cameron, Ed Miliband and Nick Clegg opted for starkly different styles for their final official festive cards before the General Election battle.

The Prime Minister has a statesman-like photograph outside 10 Downing Street. A besuited Tory leader is shown standing alongside wife Samantha, flanked by Chelsea Pensioners.

Mr Miliband, meanwhile, opted for a more personal touch. The Labour leader sits at a table at his London home with wife Justine and their sons, five-year-old Daniel and Samuel, four.

Liberal Democrat leader Mr Clegg and wife Miriam have joined the trend for "photobooting". The couple are shown in a series of passport-style shots, with the Deputy Prime Minister donning a Santa hat before holding up a sign saying "Merry Christmas!"

## WEEK IN POLITICS

with Daniel Wainwright

DAVID Winnick knows a thing or two about liberty and freedom, so it was a surprise to hear him raise the prospect of fining people who don't turn out to vote.

The long-serving MP for Walsall North was responsible for Tony Blair's first Commons defeat on a whipped vote when, in 2005, he rebelled over Labour's planned 90-day detention 28 days without trial of terror suspects.

He put forward an amendment limiting it to 28 days and won. In a week when the CIA has been shamed for its use of torture and we were reminded that a British citizen is still in Guantanamo Bay 12 years after being detained, without a conviction, Mr Winnick must have been fully aware of the context of his proposal.

For while he is adamant that it is a democratic right to vote, what he wants the Commons to discuss in a 10-minute Rule Bill in January is the democratic right not to vote.

He proposes that it be made a civic obligation to vote, or at the very least make clear one's intention to abstain. Effectively then, being apathetic about politics would attract a fine.

Mr Winnick suggests something like the Australian system, where voting has been compulsory since the 1920s and turnout has been consistently above 90 per cent.

In Britain in 2010 it was 65 per cent. That was a slight improvement on 2005 but it meant one in three people did not bother to put anything on a ballot paper.

Even if they had scrawled 'none of the above' on their paper and spoiled it, that would still have counted as turning out.

In the elections for the West Midlands police and crime commissioner it was even more dire. Barely one in 10 registered a preference.

The Government had offered democratic accountability for people overseeing the police force and the electorate either did not understand what it was they were being offered or did not care.

Mr Winnick's worry is that, left unchecked, there will come a time when a government is elected and fewer than half the people had their say on it.

Anyone who cares about the democratic process would share that concern.

What Mr Winnick and his fellow MPs must address in their debate, however, is why it has come to this.

The argument that the parties are all the same no longer applies now that New Labour is over. There is an enormous difference between Labour and the Tories in terms of policy.

Yet among the leaders – Oxford graduates, career politicians etc – there isn't a fat lot. And it is also pretty rare in General Elections to see just those two parties on the ballot paper. People have plenty of choice. They just aren't using it.



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# Working together, not a Brum takeover

I WOULD like to correct the genuine misunderstandings, as well as the deliberate misinformation from UKIP, on the proposed Black Country and Birmingham combined authority. The first problem is caused by the term 'combined authority' which suggests that the councils will merge. They will not. The individual councils of Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton will retain the same powers and responsibilities. So will Birmingham.

The combined authority will be responsible for economic regeneration and transport across the region. The

region already runs the police, fire and health services. One proposed name, Greater Birmingham, has given some people the opportunity to claim that it spells the demise of the Black Country and a Birmingham takeover. They are wrong.

The Black Country has a proud past and this year saw the new flag flying on the first ever Black Country Day. The events organised across the region demonstrate the determination of local councils and local people to ensure that it continues to be celebrated.

The combined authority (perhaps

we should call it 'authorities working together') is a vital step to devolve Westminster powers to the region. It will attract billions of pounds of investment, bringing new industries and jobs, as well as much needed improvements to our transport system. We can argue about the name but without the Black Country and Birmingham councils working together, this region will lose out to forward thinking councils in other regions who are already working together.

**J BILLS**  
Halesowen

## Poverty at home must be priority

WHEN we face more drastic cuts due to the still large deficit, why on Earth are we sending large amounts of money abroad?

People's basic needs are crying out for funding. But this Government is sweeping poverty under the carpet. If we are so well off to give money away, why are thousands of old people dying every year through cold related illnesses? Why are people going to food banks? Why are our hospitals in such a dire state?

The people in this country suffer greatly from the cuts imposed on us but we have to put up with it. I suggest that the money sent abroad should be given to the needy of this country and let other countries learn to look after themselves. When the Archbishop of Canterbury says that the poverty in this country is like a Third World country, it is time for this Government to sit up and take notice.

**K TIMMINS**  
Kingswinford

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### POST

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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

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## Road measures make the situation worse

AS a resident of Marine Crescent for over 40 years I, along with many more long-suffering neighbours, have had to put up with thoughtless motorists blocking the entrance to the estate, thereby preventing any one from either entering or leaving.

Imagine our joy when it was announced that there would be a traffic island at the junction. We naturally assumed that it was intended for us and would be put in the obvious place where the Crescent opens on to the main A491.

Wrong. Not only have they not put any sort of measures in place to help, in their wisdom it was decided to build a pedestrian refuge which not only does nothing to make it easier to access the estate, but when approaching from the direction of the bridge makes it much more difficult to position the car so that you enable the traffic following to pass by.

If there are two cars wanting to turn onto the estate the bollard prevents any following traffic enough room to get past safely. There happens to be pedestrian crossing just a few yards away. In the meantime, there is not even a Keep Clear marking to remind motorists that they are not the only ones on the road.

**M HARRIS**  
Stourbridge

## Plan must not be used as a lever

SO the saga of the Dudley Mosque drags on.

Dudley residents have continually voiced their disapproval of the project. Our elected councillors, after initially voting against the building, have continued to be weak in their handling of the application which has cost thousands of pounds in legal fees.

Now Muslim leaders propose compromise if another suitable site can be found.

It is time for our councillors to show some backbone and treat the application as they would any other rejected on legitimate grounds and not allow the proposal of a mosque in Hall Street as a lever to obtain land elsewhere.

For the planning committee to accept the Hall Street proposal now, after all the local petitions against it and before a scheduled High Court ruling, is a grave misjudgement.

**J BARNES**  
Dudley



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The Prince's aide-de-camp Dandini Grande Salami (Julian Clary) in one of his lavish costumes



X-tra special — it's singer Niki Evans as a Brummie Fairy Godmother



'I look like a letter box' — Buttons (Joe Tracini) as Cinderella's coachman at the Prince's grand ball

# Having a ball at Grand with Cinderella and co

**DANDINI dares to be naughty but not too outrageous when Julian Clary stars in the most flamboyant panto to grace the Grand's stage for years.**

A couple of performances in, there were a few brief flat moments and the odd 'start the car' comments from the cast as the performers sussed out exactly how to hit a Wulfrunian audience's funnybone.

As aide-de-camp to the handsome prince, the more handsome and infinitely more regal Clary, was in command with his sharp-tongue shredding anyone upon whom his gaze would fall: "Dorothy Perkins must be picked clean" or "I suppose it beats a night in eating lard" among the barbed quips.

Clary talks rather than sings his songs, including *That's Amore* and *Search For The Hero*, where he can get maximum comic effect just from where he places the emphasis in a lyric. Thankfully, most of his innuendo was pitched well above the heads of the younger audience members. But

## PANTO REVIEW

By Leon Burakowski

when it comes to glamour, not even Cinderella's ball gown could outshine his succession of spectacular outfits.

Alice Baker was a charming Cinderella who surely didn't need the aid of a Fairy Godmother to capture the heart of Will Richardson's nice-but-dim Prince Charming, a dead ringer for Mattel's Ken doll.

### Cheeky

Pint-sized Joe Tracini was chirpy and cheeky as Buttons with body-popping, rapping and magic tricks alongside the slapstick buffoonery. But the biggest surprise was when he sang *All Of Me*. The Hollyoaks actor's poignant version, after being rejected by Cinders, got the biggest cheer of the night.

Niki Evans as the buxom Brummie Fairy Godmother was always on the spot vocally, even when precariously perched on a silver moon dangling 20

feet above the stage — she's still got plenty of X Factor. She was joined aloft by a spectacular flying horse and coach carrying Cinderella, the wow moment that closes the first act.

The Ugly Sisters, Ben Stock and Tony Jackson, are plenty hissable for their cruelty to Cinders but funny too in their crazy costumes.

Add fine support from panto veterans Iain Stuart Robertson (Baron Hardup) and Ian Gledhill (Lord Chamberlain), energetic dancers including youngsters from Willenhall's Classic Academy of Dance, a host of pop songs (including *Born This Way* and *Happy*) and you have all the right ingredients.

The festive confection is complete with local jibes — Wolves came in for stick even with Steve Bull in the house — and adorable tots persuaded to give their rendition of *Old MacDonald Had A Farm* in a heart-warming finale.

It's not just Cinders who will be having a ball when this all-singing, all-dancing, and in the case of its glamorous comedy star, all-mincing, production really hits its stride.



Alice Baker is a charming Cinderella in Wolverhampton Grand Theatre's pantomime, running until January 18

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Snow being dumped in Wolverhampton, February, 1947



Tarmac Ltd help thaw a road in Cannock on February 10



Workman laying a new sewer in Lower Gornal in 1947



Skaters at Dartmouth Park, West Bromwich, in 1963

# Hidden depths of a snowy winter

**WITH blizzards, snowstorms and freezing conditions having swept across North America, many older people will have thought 'we're for it next'.**

For so often in the past, harsh weather conditions in the USA have been the har-binger of bitter cold and heavy snowfalls here in Britain. And with such thoughts whirling around our minds, memories often turn to the worst winters we have endured.

For me it was the winter of 1962-63. I was just six but still have vivid memories of that most icy of times. Heavy snow began falling on Boxing Day and soon afterwards fierce blizzards transformed the landscape, covering it with massive snowdrifts. Then came the big freeze.

I remember but when my Mom and Dad talked about bad winters they always highlighted the winter of 1947 and that is the one that June M Lloyd brings to mind.

She writes: "One night I found myself unable to sleep. Sitting down, sipping a hot drink my mind drifted back to my childhood. I was

## MEMORY LANE

by Carl Chinn

eleven years old and lived with my parents and four sisters and brothers at 12 Bristol Hall Lane, Warley, Worcestershire, now known as Sandwell. The war was over but everything was still rationed. Mom had books of coupons for food, clothes, fuel. Well I awoke one morning to find there was deep snow everywhere.

"I looked out of my bedroom window; the snow was so deep it was right over people's front doors and windows. I woke my sister Sheila who was nine years old and told her to come and look.

"She was so scared when she saw the snow, that she ran downstairs crying for mom. I followed her downstairs to the kitchen, mom, dad and my other brothers and sisters were crammed into the kitchen.

"There was a roaring fire which kept sizzling as the snow melted above the chimney. How would we get out to the toilet? I asked mom, she said, 'You will have to use the white bucket in the bathroom until your dad and I try to un-block the back door.'

"Dad tried to clear a path to the coal house using the coal shovel we kept near the fire-place. Then my older brothers started to help him. It was like living in a snow house, I read about those at school. Dad and my brothers worked hard all that day and finally made a path to the coalhouse and toilet. The snow was piled so high you couldn't see the back garden.

"We could hear Mr Fletcher next door doing the same thing. There was a lot of cussing going on. Mr Fletcher's chickens were buried alive under the snow. He later shared them with us neighbours.

### Struggled

"All the men and boys worked hard in our street all that day and the next day trying to make a path to the 'Two Brewers', a pub at the bottom of our street, and to Mrs Smith's grocery shop.

"It was so eerie walking between those banks of snow. 'I struggled back with the shopping, mainly tinned food, flour, butter, lard, bread and candles. It was a good job Mrs Smith had received a delivery the day before the snow came down. The radio came on and they said more snow was coming. No-one could go to work as the roads were blocked.

"The radio came on at eight o'clock that night warning people not to use their gas. This was in case they blew up. There were icicles on the windows upstairs so we couldn't sleep there.

"We dragged some mattresses downstairs to sleep on. The boys on one and us girls on the other. We had blankets over us as it was too cold upstairs. I think mom and dad slept in the bathroom."

June adds: "Mom banked the kitchen fire up with wet slack so it would stay in all night. We slept in the front room downstairs; it was so cold even our dog, Gyp, slept on our bed at night.

"We had to be careful with the food as there were no deliveries to the shop; no-one could get to work as there were no buses running.

"We listened to the radio for the news every night and played cards to pass the time. We had porridge for breakfast with salt on; dinner was powdered eggs, and bread and lard. The main meals were eaten by the grown-ups although we had soup and bread made from the chicken or rabbit bones.

"I remember dad breaking up some chairs and the wardrobe vanished from our bedroom to keep the fire going. We played out in the

snow tunnels sometimes, but not for long as it was so cold. All the neighbours helped each other and shared what food they had.

"Finally the council men were able to clear the main roads so that people could go back to work. Bread was brought round on a sledge pulled by a horse, fresh bread from Grant's bakery, it tasted wonderful.

"My brother Stan and I had to go to the coal yard at Smethwick to get some coal and coke. We had to pawn dad's suit first to get some money and I had to do mom's shopping on the slate until the wages were paid. It was hard work as the pavements weren't clear.

"It was very hard work helping my brother to push the pram full of wet coal and coke back home through the snow; still he did give me a ride in the pram going there.

"There was no schools open yet it was great fun building snowmen and throwing snowballs at each other. It wasn't dark at night either as the snow made everywhere lighter. The only sounds you heard over those weeks were the men clearing the snow away and us children shouting to one another.

"Otherwise it was so quiet; no birds were singing or flying around. I've never seen snow like that before and hope I never do again!

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# Pantomime is a community project



Tracy Ellis as an Ugly Sister with Buttons Elliot Robins, Cinderella Vanessa Merrick and Sean Harris as Prince Charming

PANTO magic was on the cards in Stourbridge when the Comedy Theatre Group brought their production of Cinderella to Giggill Methodist Church last week.

Writer and director Phill Liptrott said: "We started the group three years ago to give people with little performing experience a chance to perform on stage."

He added: "Last year we did Snow White and the Seven Dwarves and we had so much fun that we decided to do it all again this year, so I wrote a version of Cinderella and we started rehearsing around September."

"It is a fantastic community project and we get a lot of support."

## Repairs halt school concert

A SCHOOL'S festive choral concert involving 175 performers had to be cancelled due to sudden urgent repairs taking place at Dudley Town Hall.

The venue has been closed to the public while work on the ceiling is carried out.

Jesson's CE Primary School was due to stage Now That's What I Call Christmas at the venue last Thursday when two children's choirs and rock/pop choir Fusion Rock were due to perform.

Meanwhile, Dudley Town Hall Dancers Group moved its Christmas Ball, on December 20 to Dudley College, at The Broadway.

Dudley Council said it was not known how long the town hall would be closed due to the emergency work.

Culture boss Councillor Hilary Bills said: "We would like to apologise to everyone using our town hall for any inconvenience during this essential but unforeseen repair work."

### Refunded

But organisers were forced to cancel because they couldn't find another venue big enough at short notice.

All tickets for the event were being refunded.



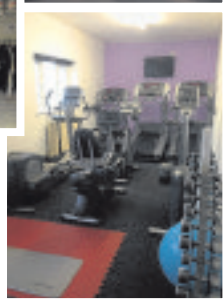
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Darren Fillingham, Director of Your Choice Bathrooms

# New year, new bathroom

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Choice Bathrooms, Darren Fillingham.

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Darren explains: "Your Choice Bathrooms is fast becoming one of the leading bathroom companies in the West Midlands with showrooms in Lichfield

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**Phone numbers:** 01384 287222 (Kingswinford) 01902 861908 (Wednesfield)  
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Paul holds enhanced DBS certificates from Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council (2014) and ensures that all of his instructors' credentials are updated and maintained.

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**Face Book : PaulCampbells Karate Academy**



# Maddy brings a real carnival of music

**Maddy Prior and The Carnival Band, Town Hall, Birmingham**

WHEN it comes to putting on Christmas shows you would be hard pushed to top Maddy Prior and the Carnival Band with their Carols & Capers show.

With the band playing instruments which are not only unusual but have been specially made, some recreated from old drawings, and playing music, some of which is hundreds of years old, you have a good show without any-

thing else. But throw in the unmistakable voice and presence of Maddy Prior and a choir with at least 50 voices and you have a festive display which is both, rich, diverse and incredibly impressive.

When she was not singing or taking a back seat to the Carnival Band, Prior expressively swished around the stage in flowing skirts to the music which was diverse, complex and thoroughly enjoyable.

There were tunes straight out of the middle ages, traditional carols such as God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen and not so traditional such as A Boy Was Born In Bethlehem.

There was tinsel-a-plenty and festive tunes from Europe and even one with animal masks and impersonations. All in all it was a night of great music and spectacle which keeps the musical traditions of the UK alive.

**Danny Farragher**

## Rusby's mug full of festivities

**Kate Rusby  
Symphony Hall,  
Birmingham**

LOOKING like a Christmas humbug in her black and white hooped dress and with obligatory tea mug in hand she greeted the assembled Birmingham audience with a massive 'ello!

She then launched into the first of her Christmas songs with Here We Come a Wassailing.

If you have seen Rusby's Christmas show before then you know it's pretty much the same format as the previous year but of course this time there were a few songs from her latest album Ghost thrown in.

With her assembled band which includes hubby Damian O'Kane and a small, but impressive, brass section she sang a mixture of traditional carols such as Joy To The World, Little Town of Bethlehem, Diadem and various versions of While Shepherds Watch.

Rusby infects you with her enthusiasm for the season and no matter how many times you see her you leave her show full of Christmas cheer.

**DF**

## REVIEWS



Harmonising - Jersey Boys line-up

## Oh, What a Night at musical rollercoaster

**Jersey Boys  
Alexandra Theatre**

IT was fast and furious and I loved it - as did the packed Alexandra Theatre in Birmingham.

This Jersey Boys rollercoaster took you on a wonderful journey as it told the story of four boys from the wrong side of the tracks who wrote their own songs, invented their own sound, and sold 175 million records.

Featuring hit after hit including 'Beggin'', 'Oh, What a Night', 'Sherry', 'Walk Like a Man', 'Bye Bye Baby' and many more, Jersey Boys is a story full of heart, humour,

and most importantly fantastic music.

Tim Driesen as Frankie Valli certainly has the voice for it. All telling their own stories throughout the show the four together - Sam Ferriday as Bob Gaudio, Lewis Griffiths as Nick Massi and Stephen Webb as Tommy DeVito - harmonised beautifully, almost bringing the audience to their feet just a third of the way through and of course up and dancing by the end.

This show runs until January 4. As a festive treat this is real gift.

**Sue Attwater**

## Magic and Christmas anarchy

**The Magical Christmas  
Tree Tour  
Newhampton Folk Club,  
Newhampton Inn**

IT seems you can have anarchy at Christmas and still enjoy yourself and to prove the point Pete Morton, Emily Sanders and Chris Parkinson brought their show to the upper room of the Newhampton Inn, Whitmore Reans.

With clog dancing, Chaucerian rock 'n' roll, upside down, broom and eccentric dancing along with a rather world weary Christmas tree guiding proceedings, it all got a little merry and at times surreal.

But Morton on guitar and vocals, Sanders on fiddle and vocals and Parkinson on a variety of instruments, vocals and Father Jack impersonations brought a really manic sense of fun to proceedings.

Add to this, Parkinson slipping in all sorts of instrumental jokes while sitting in the corner on his piano accordion like a naughty schoolboy and it was a great way to go into the winter night with a smile on your face.

**DF**

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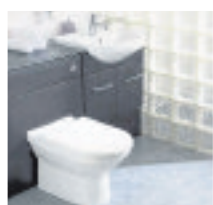
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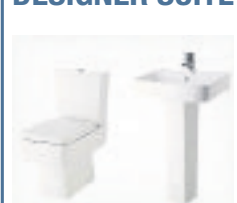


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## City to axe jobs and cut hours at library

BIRMINGHAM City Council has announced plans to axe more than 1,000 council jobs and reduce opening hours at its iconic new £189 million library.

The job losses will hit the Library of Birmingham, which opened in September last year, where around 100 posts are expected to go as part of plans to reduce council spending.

Unveiling the Labour-run authority's consultation on its 2015 budget, council leader Sir Albert Bore said the authority needed to make annual savings of £117 million next year.

Under the plans, announced by Sir Albert at the city's Council House, the Library of Birmingham would see its weekly opening hours slashed from 73 to 40 in April next year. Approximately 100 of the library's 188 staff would also lose their jobs.

Business, learning, music and archive services will also cease, other than counter transactions, if external funding cannot be identified.

The Library of Birmingham was shortlisted for this year's Riba Stirling Prize.



Even Santa will have to wait until Easter to see Dudley Zoo's upcoming Castle Creatures exhibition

## Even Santa can't have sneak preview of zoo attraction

THE £250,000 Castle Creatures attraction at Dudley Zoo is being kept under wraps this Christmas — even with Santa Claus as a neighbour.

Work is well under way on the new interactive medieval experience within Dudley Castle, which will explain its history and house animal exhibits to show how people lived in close proximity to rats and bats in everyday life.

But when Santa moved in to his Winter Wonderland Castle Grotto, where he will be greeting children until Christmas Eve, the new features were covered up so as not to spoil the surprise.

Dudley Zoo's Rachel Hickman said: "We're all excited about the new experience, which is taking shape and looking fantastic within the castle."

"Because we don't want to spoil the surprise for anybody until the big reveal at Easter next year, we've temporarily wrapped up the huge board game flooring and all the interactive interior displays — and not even Santa was allowed to have a peek when he arrived to oversee final preparations to his grotto."

Work on the six-month construction project, supported by cash from the European Regional Development Fund, started in September.

The new attraction will set the zoo in its historic location, telling the story from the castle's origins in 1070 through to the present day, focusing on how people in medieval times lived.

Features will include a grill where visitors can inhale authentic smells of the old days.

## Time limit at car park to deter rail commuters

A THREE-HOUR parking limit is being introduced at a public gardens to stop commuters leaving their cars there all day.

The car park off Sydney Road in Cradley Heath is intended for users of Mary Macarthur Gardens.

According to local councillors, it is currently being used as a long-stay car park by commuters using the nearby rail station who are trying to avoid paying.

Now Sandwell Council is introducing a three-hour limit at the park, with no return within two hours, to ensure spaces are available for those using the park.

### Clogged

"This had been mainly on the New Pool estate but we have put markings there earlier in the year. That seems to have dispersed cars further away from the station but the problems have continued. The majority of the time the car park at Mary Macarthur Gardens is occupied by people who use the rail station, as are the adjacent narrow streets which become clogged."

Sandwell Council received just one objection to the proposals, having advertised the changes, which said the rail station had become increasingly popular and parking there was no longer sufficient. They added that the Gardens' car park was

By Rob Cox

never full and time restrictions would instead result in cars parking in front of homes on Sydney Road.

In September work began on a £1.9 million overhaul of Cradley Heath bus station, being paid for through the Better Bus Area Fund, which is a £10 million pot to improve public transport in Dudley. The possibility of upgrading the rail station car park had been discussed as part of the plans.

Councillor Tipper said: "It is one thing we raised with Centro when they were preparing to redevelop the bus station. For whatever reason they didn't think to take up the suggestion."

The council has estimated the cost of implementing the changes at around £1,700, but Councillor Tipper said it was the logical step to ensure the car park remains available to park users.

He added: "There is a lot of concern in particular about parking on the side of the road. In an emergency it would be hard to get an ambulance down some of these roads."

## Housing proposed at former factory site

A PATCH of wasteland in the Black Country could be transformed into a housing estate of 46 homes, if proposals are accepted by Sandwell planners.

The homes are planned for the former NJ Bradford and Sons Glassworks factory site off Ashes Road in Oldbury. The proposal was put forward by Worcestershire-based housing company Lioncourt Homes Ltd with the plans being drawn up by architects Cadsquare Midlands.

Councillor Yvonne Davies, ward councillor and a cabinet member, said she welcomes the plans but does not believe it will solve the housing problems in the area.

Councillor Davies said: "There is a severe shortage of housing across the board, and there does need to be a push on buildings of all shapes and sizes. However, these will be two, three and four-bedroom homes which will not be suitable for vulnerable people who will not be able to live there unassisted."

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# Thief who tried to give police the slip is jailed

## Rail firm is on track for major service boost

### Speed watch move hailed as a success



Pupil Eve Yates, front, joins the speed watch campaigners in Wordsley to discourage fast driving

CAMPAIGNERS say a blitz on speeding motorists in Wordsley has led to a significant fall in the numbers caught. Residents have been holding their own community speed watch scheme in the town after growing concerns over the number of accidents.

Police have joined volunteers from the community to lead the second in a series of monthly speed clampdowns.

#### School

Only three motorists were found to be speeding during the latest crackdown near Belle Vue Primary School. Campaigners led by ward councillor Derrick Hemingsley and neighbourhood police conducted the scheme one week-day afternoon last week.

It was designed to warn motorists to adhere to the 30mph limits near the school, off Lawnswood Road.

More sessions will take place in the New Year including outside Dingle Community Primary School.

## Children focus of campaign over domestic abuse

A PROJECT raising awareness of domestic abuse especially its impact on children over Christmas has been re-launched in Dudley.

This month, Safe and Sound, Dudley's community safety partnership, is staging its Twelve Days of Christmas campaign.

Officials say the scheme aims to highlight that children are often the hidden victims of domestic abuse because in nine out of ten cases they are involved in some way.

People who suspect a child is being harmed or neglected or is living with domestic abuse are asked to call the police public protection unit on 0845 113 5000.

Alternatively people can call the national domestic abuse helpline on 08082 000247 or in an emergency dial 999.

Dudley Councillor Gaye Partridge, who is responsible for community safety in the borough, said: "This campaign is a stark reminder that Christmas isn't always a joyful time.

"Children are undoubtedly the hidden victims of domestic abuse and it's important that everyone takes responsibility for reporting if they suspect a child is at risk.

"Domestic abuse is a crime, one which will not be tolerated in Dudley."

A TEENAGER who stole £1,200 worth of clothes from Mothercare in Merry Hill has been jailed for 12 weeks.

Ashley Rollinson, of Moorevale Street, Lye, was one of two men seen leaving the shop with the bag containing baby clothing stolen from display rails.

The theft was the first of three crimes that 19-year-old Rollinson committed during October, which included making off without paying a taxi fare and attempting to escape from lawful custody. He pleaded guilty to all three charges.

David Lees, prosecuting, said the shop manager spotted Rollinson and the other man leaving with the stolen goods on October 10. The defendant was identified by police officers from CCTV footage.

Mr Lees told Wolverhampton Crown Court the second incident took place

By Simon Stone

on October 25 when a taxi driver collected the defendant and another man from Merry Hill.

He said the driver was asked to go to a number of different locations, before ending up at the Castle Inn pub in Dudley where the passengers said they were going to get money to pay for the £30 fare, but never returned to make the payment.

#### Escape

The third incident happened when a police officer was to arrest the defendant for earlier matters on October 28, but Rollinson initially ran away, although he was subsequently arrested, cautioned and handcuffed.

However, he then made a second attempt to escape after arriving at the police station.

He ran away in the street before

being detained again after he slipped on some grass.

Mr Lees told the court that Rollinson had 15 previous convictions.

These included robbery, burglary, thefts from shops, assaulting a police constable and possession of drugs.

Robert Perry, mitigating, said Rollinson accepted that he had entered Mothercare and had the 'sense' to plead guilty at the first opportunity before the court.

He added that Rollinson's actions in making off without paying the taxi driver were affected by drink, while on the escape attempt he had fled only a 'short distance' from the police station before being arrested.

Judge Michael Challinor told Rollinson: "The harm involved is principally financial and relatively low in terms of value.

"It seems to me that by reason of your record, this does pass the custody threshold."

THOUSANDS more seats per week will be available on trains through the West Midlands as part of a £62 million investment in services.

Rail firm London Midland hailed the plan as its biggest timetable shake-up in six years, promising more services in and out of Birmingham and to London.

The new timetable comes into effect from December 15 and will mean Stafford will gain 4,000 more seats to London each week and faster journeys.

On the Trent Valley line there will be 2,000 extra seats a week to Birmingham.

London Midland announced £62m worth of new trains, new services and 139,000 more seats

per week across its network. This includes 75,000 extra seats in and out of Birmingham New Street and more direct services to the capital.

London Midland managing director Patrick Verwer said: "With more people travelling with us each year our passengers are telling us they want more services, quicker journeys and more seats. We have listened and taken the opportunity with our new trains to make as many improvements for as many passengers as we can.

"With £62 million invested in new trains, this is the biggest change to our timetable in six years."

For more details on the changes to local services visit [www.londonmidland.com/goodnews](http://www.londonmidland.com/goodnews)

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# Christmas Day

## BBC 1



**Michael McIntyre's Very Christmassy Christmas Show**, on at 10.40pm

6.00 **Breakfast** Headlines and business news. 9.00 **The Gruffalo** (R) 9.30 **On Angel Wings** (R) 10.00 **Come and Join the Celebration** Traditional service from St George's Church in Leeds. 11.00 **Only Fools and Horses Christmas special** from 1986. Rodney dates an aristocrat's daughter. (R) 12.00 **Wallace & Gromit: A Grand Day Out** The animated heroes go to the moon. (R) 12.25 **FILM: Gnomeo & Juliet** (2011) Animated comedy, with the voices of James McAvoy and Emily Blunt. ★★ 1.40 **Shaun the Sheep** The animals decorate the farmhouse for Christmas. (R) 1.50 **BBC News; Weather.** 2.00 **Top of the Pops Christmas** The year's most successful chart acts

## BBC 2



**James May's Toy Stories: Action Man at the Speed of Sound**, 5.10pm

6.00 **FILM: Sinbad: Legend of the Seven Seas** (2003) Animated adventure, with the voice of Brad Pitt. ★★ 7.15 **FILM: Short Circuit** (1986) Sci-fi comedy adventure, starring Steve Guttenberg. ★★ 8.50 **FILM: Pollyanna** (1960) Family drama, starring Hayley Mills. ★★ 11.00 **Carols from King's** (R) 12.15 **To the Manor Born** Audrey takes Christmas very seriously. (R) 12.45 **The Choir: New Military Wives** Part two of two. The women perform at the Royal Albert Hall. (R) 1.45 **60 Years of Carols from King's** The history of the annual Christmas service broadcast. 2.45 **Kiss Me, Kate** at the Proms A performance of Cole Porter's musical at the Royal Albert Hall.

## ITV



**David calls at the bistro to see Nick in Coronation Street**, on at 8.00pm

6.00 **CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show!** (R) 6.25 **Pat & Stan** (R) 6.30 **Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures** (R) 6.40 **Dino Dan** (R) 6.55 **Sooty** (R) 7.05 **Almost Naked Animals** (R) 7.20 **Almost Naked Animals** Children's animation. (R) 7.40 **Horrid Henry** (R) 7.55 **Horrid Henry** (R) 8.10 **Horrid Henry** (R) 8.25 **Weekend at Christmas** New series. Aled Jones presents a festive edition of the chat show. 9.25 **FILM: Valiant** (2005) Computer-animated adventure, with the voice of Ewan McGregor. ★★ 10.55 **FILM: Back to the Future** (1985) Sci-fi comedy adventure, starring Michael J Fox. ★★ 1.10 **FILM: Nanny McPhee** (2005) Period fantasy, starring Emma Thompson. ★★

## Ch4



**Sarah Millican, Alan Carr: Chatty Man Christmas Special**, on at 9.00pm

6.00 **FILM: The Ugly Duckling and Me** (2006) ★★ 7.30 **Prep & Landing** (R) 7.55 **Prep & Landing: Naughty v Nice** (R) 8.20 **Father Christmas** (R) 8.55 **FILM: Animals United** (2010) ★★ 10.45 **The Simpsons** (R) 11.15 **The Simpsons** (R) 11.45 **The Simpsons** (R) 12.15 **Ice Age: A Mammoth Christmas** Festive spin-off of the animated films, with the voice of John Leguizamo. (R) 12.45 **The Snowman** Animated adventure, based on Raymond Briggs' festive tale. (R) 1.20 **The Snowman and the Snowdog** (R) 1.50 **The Alternative Christmas Message** 1.55 **Channel 4 News Summary** 2.05 **FILM: Scrooged** (1988) Christmas comedy, starring Bill Murray. ★★

## Ch5



**Justin Hawkins, Britain's Favourite Christmas Songs**, on at 8.00pm

6.00 **Milkshake!** 9.10 **Access** Showbiz news and gossip. 9.20 **Andre Rieu: Christmas Around the World** A Christmas concert by the violinist, featuring sumptuously festive performances of White Christmas, Hallelujah and Jingle Bells. Part of Sing-Along Christmas Day. 10.20 **FILM: Scrooge** (1970) A miserly man is taught the error of his ways by a host of spectral visitors. Musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol, starring Albert Finney and Alec Guinness. ★★ 12.35 **The Sound of Music - Live!** A novice nun brings joy into the lives of seven children when she becomes their governess. Adaptation of Rodgers and Hammerstein's musical, starring Carrie Underwood. (R)

Early View

Prime Time

Late View

3.00 **The Queen in Boots** (2011) Premiere. Animated comedy spin-off, with the voice of Antonio Banderas. ★★

4.40 **BBC News; Weather.** 5.00 **Strictly Come Dancing Christmas Special** Six previous contestants compete for the Christmas trophy.

6.15 **Doctor Who** 7.15 **Miranda** The hit sitcom returns for the final two episodes, which pick up where the last one left off, with the shop owner deciding whether to accept Gary or Mike's proposal.

7.50 **Call the Midwife** Chummy is asked to help out at a mother-and-baby home whose residents have little in the way of Christmas cheer, while Cynthia assists two former patients of a psychiatric hospital.

9.00 **EastEnders** Hour-long episode. Christmas Day gets off to a good start for the Carters but soon goes downhill when Sylvie arrives - and then Dean turns up. Cindy is alarmed by a suspicious gift.

10.05 **Mrs Brown's Boys** The first of two festive editions. Mrs Brown tries to work out what is inside a parcel addressed to Cathy and discovers Rory is planning to have plastic surgery.

10.40 **Michael McIntyre's Very Christmassy Christmas Show** An hour of festive entertainment, with Jamie Oliver, Rob Brydon, Barbara Windsor and Robbie Williams.

11.40 **BBC News; Weather.** 11.55 **On Christmas Night** Adjoa Andoh reflects on the implications of Jesus's birth for his mother.

12.00 **Not Going Out Christmas Special** (R) 12.45 **Would I Lie to You?** at Christmas (R) 1.15 **George Michael at the Palais Garnier**, Paris (R) 2.15 **FILM: The Heartbreak Kid** (2007) ★★ 4.05 **Skating Weather** 4.40 **BBC News**

5.00 **Sign Zone: The Queen** Her Majesty's annual address. (R)

5.10 **James May's Toy Stories: Action Man at the Speed of Sound** The Top Gear presenter attempts to propel an Action Man through the sound barrier.

6.15 **Morecambe and Wise in Pieces: The Sketches** Penelope Keith presents another edition of the occasional series, this time trawling the archives for bite-sized routines from the comedy duo's shows.

7.15 **Christmas University Challenge**

Distinguished graduates of the universities of Edinburgh and Leeds compete, with novelist Philippa Gregory and football commentator Jacqui Oatley among the contestants.

7.45 **Dad's Army** Mainwaring finds himself bidding against Pike for an orange at a fundraising bazaar. Last in the series. (R)

8.30 **Blackadder's Christmas Carol** Kindly Victorian pushover Ebenezer Blackadder is visited by the Spirit of Christmas and gains an insight into the dastardly deeds of his ancestors. Starring Rowan Atkinson.

9.00 **Tim Rice - A Life in Song** A concert from London's Royal Festival Hall celebrating the work of the Oscar-winning lyricist, who also reminisces about his career, in the company of Michael Grade.

10.30 **QI Christmas** Stephen Fry hosts a festive edition of the comedy quiz, with Carrie Fisher, Bill Bailey, Phill Jupitus and Alan Davies.

11.00 **Marvellous** Fact-based feature-length comedy drama about the life of Neil Baldwin. Toby Jones stars. (R)

12.30 **FILM: The Producers** (2005) ★★ 2.35 **This Is BBC Two**

3.00 **The Queen Her Majesty's** annual address.

3.10 **The Queen's Garden** Part one of two. Exploring Buckingham Palace Garden.

4.10 **ITV News and Weather** 4.20 **Elf: Buddy's Musical Christmas** Stop-motion animated adventure based on the film Elf.

5.20 **New You've Been Framed! At Christmas** A festive selection of funny clips, narrated by Harry Hill.

5.50 **Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs at Christmas** The comedian helps out at Battersea Dogs & Cats Home over the festive period.

6.50 **ITV News and Weather** 7.00 **Emmerdale** Hour-long episode. Bernice and Robert threaten Andy and Katie's wedding day. Laurel takes in an unwelcome dinner guest, Lachlan leads Belle astray and Jai proposes to Megan.

8.00 **Coronation Street** Hour-long episode. Kyle is horrified when Callum turns up at her doorstep, Amy and Tony are taken aback by how much Steve has spent and Tracy grabs Tony under the mistletoe.

9.00 **Downton Abbey** Lord Sinderby invites the Crawleys to a grouse-shooting party at Brancaster Castle, but the butler has an axe to grind and a scandalous secret threatens to derail the holiday.

11.00 **ITV News and Weather** 11.15 **You've Got to Love Christmas** Jane Horrocks narrates a comic trawl through the TV archives, guiding viewers through the pitfalls and perils of the festive season, with contributions from famous faces. (R)

12.15 **Christmas Carols** on ITV A candlelit Christmas Eve carol service from St Mary's Church in Prestwich. (R) 1.15 **FILM: Murder, She Wrote: The Celtic Riddle** (2003) Mystery, starring Angela Lansbury. ★★ 2.45 **ITV Nightscreen** 5.05 **The Jeremy Kyle Show** (R)

4.00 **Big** (1988) Comedy, starring Tom Hanks. ★★

6.00 **Arthur Christmas** (2011) Premiere. Santa's son tries to make sure a girl accidentally missed off his father's list gets her presents. Animated comedy, with the voices of James McAvoy and Jim Broadbent. ★★

8.00 **Frozen at Christmas** The makers of Disney's Frozen, the most successful animated film of all time, talk about its creation and production, and the writing and performance of its most popular songs.

9.00 **Alan Carr: Chatty Man Christmas Special** Festive fun with the comedian and Terry Wogan, Sarah Millican, Dan Stevens, Emma Willis and Gino D'Acampo. Sam Smith, George Ezra and McBusted provide the music. Last in the series.

11.00 **8 Out of 10 Cats Christmas Special** Jimmy Carr hosts a festive edition of the comedy panel show, with guests Andrew Flintoff, Kevin Bridges and Roisin Conaty joining team captains Sean Lock and Jon Richardson. (R)

12.00 **Father Ted Christmas Special** Fathers Ted and Dougal endure their worst Christmas ever when they get lost in a lingerie department, leaving them in a highly embarrassing predicament. Festive edition from 1996. (R) 1.05 **Father Ted** The priests go on holiday. (R) 1.35 **Father Ted** The priests organise a raffle. (R) 2.00 **Father Ted** Craggy Island's most famous religious relic is upgraded. (R) 2.30 **FILM: Crazy Heart** (2009) A washed-up alcoholic country music star is granted a new lease of life when he falls for a journalist. Drama, starring an Oscar-winning Jeff Bridges, with Maggie Gyllenhaal. ★★ 4.25 **Secret Eaters** (R) 5.20 **Small Animal Hospital** A horse with hoof problems visits the vets. (R) 5.50 **FILM: Flicka** (2006) Family drama, with Alison Lohman. ★★

3.25 **Chitty Chitty Bang Bang** (1968) Children's musical adventure, starring Dick Van Dyke. ★★

6.10 **Michael Buble's Christmas Songbook** The Canadian crooner sings Christmas classics and appears in a variety of comedy sketches, and is joined by Rod Stewart, Blake Shelton, Carly Rae Jepsen, Elmo and Oscar the Grouch. Part of the Sing-Along Christmas Day strand. (R)

7.05 **Chas & Dave's Xmas Knees Up!** Festive entertainment from 1982, with guests including Eric Clapton, Jimmy Cricket, Jim Davidson, Albert Lee and Lennie Peters joining the Cockney duo. Part of Sing-Along Christmas Day. (R)

8.00 **Britain's Favourite Christmas Songs** A countdown of songs guaranteed to make any Christmas party go with a swing, including classics by the Jackson 5, Jona Lewie, Band Aid, the Pogues and Kirsty MacColl, and Slade. Part of Sing-Along Christmas Day. (R)

11.05 **Muriel's Wedding** (1994) A downtrodden Abba-obsessed woman heads for the bright lights of Sydney to fulfil her dreams of the perfect wedding. Comedy, with Toni Collette, Bill Hunter and Rachel Griffiths. Part of Sing-Along Christmas Day. ★★

1.20 **SuperCasino** Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. 4.00 **House Doctor** Ann Maurice visits Headcorn in Kent, where she and Tris Payne try to create the illusion of space in a tiny cottage for a couple who want to sell up before they have a baby. (R) 4.25 **House Doctor** A flat in Kensal Green, west London. (R) 4.50 **Wildlife SOS** The work of an animal sanctuary. (R) 5.10 **House Doctor** A property in Ashover Hay, Derbyshire. (R) 5.35 **Wildlife SOS**

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## Boxing Day

### BBC 1



**Nick says goodbye to his family in EastEnders, shown at 8.00pm**

**6.00 Breakfast** Headlines and business news. **9.00 FILM: Pinocchio (1940)** Disney animated adventure, with the voice of Dick Jones. **★★★★ 10.25 CBeebies Peter Pan** Musical adaptation of JM Barrie's tale. **11.05 Room on the Broom (R)** **11.30 FILM: Cool Runnings (1993)** Fact-based sporting comedy, starring John Candy. **★★★★ 1.05 BBC News; Weather.** **1.15 BBC Regional News and Weather.** **1.25 The Incredible Adventures of Professor Branestawm** Comedy drama, starring Harry Hall as the absent-minded inventor. **(R)** **2.20 My Family Christmas Special** The Harpers celebrate Christmas 2039, with an 80-year-old Ben as grumpy as ever. **(R)**

### BBC 2



**Festive skits in Victoria Wood's Midlife Christmas, 8.00pm**

**6.10 FILM: The Road to El Dorado (2000)** Animated adventure, with the voices of Kenneth Branagh and Kevin Kline. **★★★ 7.30 FILM: College Road Trip (2008)** Family comedy, starring Martin Lawrence. **★ 8.50 Queen of Tigers: Natural World Special** Colin Stafford-Johnson films the life of tiger Machli in India. **(R)** **9.50 Ten Pieces** **10.40 60 Years of Carols from King's** The history of the annual Christmas service broadcast. **(R)** **11.40 FILM: On the Town (1949)** Musical, starring Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra and Jules Munshin. **★★★★ 1.15 Gene Kelly: Talking Pictures** A profile of actor and dancer Gene Kelly. **(R)** **1.50 FILM: Singin' in the Rain (1952)** Musical comedy, starring Gene Kelly. **★★★★**

### ITV



**Kermit the Frog features in A Christmas Cracker, shown at 8.00pm**

**6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show!** **(R)** **6.20 Pat & Stan (R)** **6.30 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures (R)** **6.40 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures (R)** **6.55 Sooty (R)** **7.05 Almost Naked Animals (R)** **7.20 Almost Naked Animals (R)** **7.35 Mr Bean: The Animated Series (R)** **7.50 Super 4 (R)** **8.10 Super 4 (R)** **8.25 Weekend at Christmas** **9.25 Dinner Date: Australia (R)** **10.25 Celebrity Squares (R)** **11.25 Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs at Christmas (R)** **12.30 ITV News and Weather** **12.45 The Chase: Christmas Special** With Steve Pemberton, Paula Lane, Ben Miller and Mr Burton. Last in the series. **(R)** **1.45 FILM: Back to the Future Part II (1989)** Sci-fi comedy sequel starring Michael J Fox. **★★★**

### Ch4



**Bear's Wild Weekend with Ben Stiller, shown at 8.00pm**

**7.25 The Bear** Animation based on the Raymond Briggs tale. **(R)** **7.55 The Morning Line** Nick Luck and guests are at Kempton Park to preview today's races. **9.00 The Big Bang Theory** Leonard's mother visits. **(R)** **9.25 The Big Bang Theory** Leonard fails to get Sheldon into the Christmas mood. **(R)** **9.55 FILM: Inspector Gadget (1999)** Disney comedy adventure, starring Matthew Broderick. **★ 11.30 FILM: Horton Hears a Who! (2008)** An elephant discovers a city on a speck of dust and vows to protect it, but the other animals think he has gone mad. Animated comedy, with the voices of Jim Carrey and Steve Carell. **★★★★ 1.15 Channel 4 Racing** Clare Balding and Nick Luck present live coverage.

### Ch5



**Tommy Cooper's Christmas Special, shown at 9.25pm**

**6.00 Milkshake!** **9.55 Access** Showbiz news and gossip. **10.05 FILM: Carry On Constable (1960)** A staff shortage forces a police inspector to take on four bumbling new recruits, who only increase the crime rate. Comedy, starring Sid James, Kenneth Williams and Kenneth Connor. Part of Best of British Comedy Day. **(b/w) ★★★★★ 11.45 FILM: Carry On Teacher (1959)** A headmaster's hopes of landing a job at a better school are ruined by his naughty pupils, who do not want him to leave. Comedy, with Ted Ray, Kenneth Connor and Kenneth Williams. Part of Best of British Comedy Day. **(b/w) ★★★★★ 1.30 FILM: Carry On Nurse (1959)** Comedy, starring Kenneth Williams and Hattie Jacques. **(b/w) ★★★★★**

### Early View

**3.15 Monsters, Inc (2001)** Two monsters try to get a little girl who has wandered into their world back home before anyone finds out. Pixar animated comedy, with the voices of John Goodman and Billy Crystal. **★★★★**

**4.40 The Pirates! In an Adventure with Scientists! (2012)** Premiere. Animated comedy, with the voice of Hugh Grant. **★★★**

**6.05 BBC News; Weather.**

**6.20 Midlands Today; Weather.**

**6.25 Still Open All Hours** New series. David Jason returns as shopkeeper Granville, who is forced to take extra security precautions – causing him no end of discomfort. The next episode is on Sunday at 7.30pm.

**6.55 The Boy in the Dress** Family comedy based on David Walliams' children's book about a 12-year-old boy who shocks his family and friends when he starts cross-dressing.

**8.00 EastEnders** The fallout continues for the Carters as more lies are exposed, while Dot is heartbroken when Charlie hands Nick his ferry tickets and drives him away from Walford.

**8.30 Avengers Assemble (2012)** Premiere. Iron Man, Thor, Captain America and the Hulk unite to defend Earth from an alien invasion. Superhero adventure, with Robert Downey Jr, Chris Evans and Chris Hemsworth. **★★★★**

**10.40 BBC News**

**10.50 BBC Regional News and Weather; National Lottery Update**

**11.00 Match of the Day** Highlights of the Boxing Day Premier League fixtures, which included Chelsea v West Ham United and Arsenal v Queens Park Rangers.

**12.35 EastEnders (R)** **3.30 Weather for the Week Ahead** **3.35 BBC News**

**3.30 Victoria Wood: That Musical We Made** The comedienne presents a behind-the-scenes look at the film That Day We Sang which she wrote and directed, as well as the events that inspired the story.

**4.30 Final Score** Jason Mohammad presents a round-up of this afternoon's results from the Premier League and Football League.

**5.25 War Horse at the Proms** The BBC Concert Orchestra is joined by Gareth Malone and the Military Wives for music and stories from the First World War, inspired by Michael Morpurgo's novel.

**6.45 Christmas University Challenge** Graduates of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, and Balliol College, Oxford, compete. Doctor Who star Dan Starkey and 'and Liberal Democrat MP Alan Beith are among the contestants.

**7.15 The Two Ronnies: Christmas Show** Vintage comedy from Messrs Barker and Corbett. **(R)**

**8.00 Victoria Wood's Midlife Christmas** A festive special from 2009 that attempts to cram a night's Christmas viewing into an hour. Highlights include the Midlife Olympics, and costume drama Lark Pies to Cranchesterford. **(R)**

**9.00 That Day We Sang** A children's choir reunites in 1969 after a 40-year interval, prompting two members to reflect on their lives. Victoria Wood's musical drama, with Imelda Staunton and Michael Ball.

**10.30 Hunk Dory (2011)** Premiere. A teacher at a 1970s Welsh school persuades her students to stage a musical based on Shakespeare's The Tempest. Drama, with Minnie Driver. **★★★**

**12.15 FILM: The Winslow Boy (1999)** Drama, with Nigel Hawthorne. **★★★★ 1.55 This Is BBC Two**

**3.45 Off Their Rockers** Velma gets racy in a photo booth. **(R)**

**4.15 Downton Abbey** Lord Sinderby invites the Crawleys to a grouse-shooting party at Brancaster Castle, but the butler has an axe to grind and a scandalous secret threatens to derail the holiday. **(R)**

**6.15 ITV News and Weather**

**6.30 Emmerdale** Jai spots the man who sold him Archie and Megan wants to take action, knowing this is her only chance to find Rachel. Katie comes up with an idea to get Robert out of her life.

**7.00 Coronation Street** Hour-long episode. Gary has an unexpected encounter after trying to steal from the cafe till, and a drunk David makes a shock announcement in the Rovers.

**8.00 A Christmas Cracker** Bradley Walsh hosts a festive spectacular from the Hammersmith Apollo with a variety of guests, including Al Murray, Katherine Jenkins, the Muppets, the Vamps and Flawless.

**9.00 Birds of a Feather** New series. The hit sitcom begins its second series on ITV with a Christmas special. Dorien splashes out on a trip to the Canary Islands, taking Sharon and Tracey with her.

**9.30 Through the Christmas Keyhole** Keith Lemon noses around the homes of mystery celebrities and challenges the panel – Jonathan Ross, Louis Walsh and Kym Marsh – to work out their identities.

**10.30 ITV News and Weather**

**10.45 Out of Sight (1998)** A US Marshal pursues an escaped convict, but as the chase intensifies, so do their feelings for each other. Romantic crime drama, starring George Clooney. **★★★**

**12.50 Jackpot247** **3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show** **USA (R)** **3.45 ITV Nightscreen**

**3.50 Turner & Hooch (1989)** Family canine comedy, starring Tom Hanks. **★★★**

**5.50 Channel 4 News** Including sport and weather.

**6.00 The Simpsons** Four tales celebrating the festive season. Bart hatches a plan to hold Santa Claus hostage, and Katy Perry leads the family in a rendition of The 39 Days of Christmas.

**6.30 Hollyoaks** Sinead's life hangs in the balance, while Ste and John Paul's future looks uncertain, and Nancy is left with a difficult decision to make.

**7.00 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD** Coulson and Whitehall's forces meet in an explosive confrontation that dramatically alters the fate of everyone involved, while Skye discovers some shocking secrets about her past.

**8.00 Bear's Wild Weekend with Ben Stiller** Survivalist Bear Grylls is partnered with actor and director Ben Stiller for a 48-hour, action-filled trek into the wilds of Scotland that pushes them to the limit. **(R)**

**9.00 The Big Fat Quiz of the Year 2014** Richard Ayoade, David Mitchell, Mel B, Micky Flanagan, Sarah Millican and Kevin Bridges battle it out to see who knows the most about the past 12 months. Jimmy Carr hosts.

**11.00 Alan Carr: Chatty Man Christmas Special** Festive fun with guests Terry Wogan, Sarah Millican, Dan Stevens, Emma Willis and Gino D'Acampo. Last in the series. **(R)**

**1.05 FILM: Legend (1985)** Fantasy adventure, with Tom Cruise. **★★★**

**2.45 FILM: Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid (1969)** Western, starring Paul Newman. **★★★★ 4.35 Small Animal Hospital (R)** **5.00 Small Animal Hospital (R)** **5.25 FILM: Flicka 2 (2010)** Premiere. Family drama, starring Tammin Sursok. **★★★**

**3.15 The Ladykillers (1955)** Ealing black comedy, starring Alec Guinness. **★★★★**

**5.00 A Shot in the Dark (1964)** Comedy, starring Peter Sellers. **★★★★**

**7.05 Rob Brydon Live** A stand-up show recorded at Norwich's Theatre Royal during the comedian and actor's first UK tour in 2009, featuring comic tales, impressions, songs and anecdotes. Part of Best of British Comedy Day. **(R)**

**8.00 Morecambe & Wise Live! 1973** The duo's performance at the Ashcroft Theatre in Croydon's Fairfield Halls in October 1973, which was the only one of their stage shows captured on film. Part of Best of British Comedy Day. **(R)**

**9.25 Tommy Cooper's Christmas Special** Festive edition of the comic magician's show from 1974, featuring music by Dana and Vic Damone and a guest appearance by French puppeteer Andre Tahon. Part of Best of British Comedy Day. **(R)**

**10.25 Carry On Christmas** The gang's first TV special, originally broadcast in 1969, which consists of sketches based on A Christmas Carol. With Sid James, Barbara Windsor and Frankie Howerd. Part of Best of British Comedy Day. **(R)**

**11.30 Greatest Ever Carry On Films** A rundown of the most memorable moments from the classic comedy film series, including flying bikinis, suggestive laughs and infamous catchphrases. Part of Best of British Comedy Day. **(R)**

**12.35 FILM: Carry On Spying (1964)** Comedy, starring Kenneth Williams. **(b/w) ★★★★★ 2.20 SuperCasino** **3.10 Britain's Craziest Christmas Lights (R)** **4.00 Great Scientists (R)** **4.25 House Doctor (R)** **4.45 House Doctor (R)** **5.10 House Doctor (R)** **5.35 Wildlife SOS (R)**

### Prime Time

### Late View



# New Year's Eve

## BBC 1



**Queen + Adam Lambert**  
Rock Big Ben Live, shown at 11.15pm

**6.00 Breakfast** Round-up of national and international news, plus the latest from the money markets. **9.00 FILM: The Cat in the Hat (2003)** Comedy fantasy, starring Mike Myers. ★★ **10.15 FILM: Eight Below (2006)** A blizzard forces an Antarctic guide to abandon his huskies, which must now rely on their pack instinct to survive. Disney adventure, starring Paul Walker and Bruce Greenwood. ★★ **12.05 Bargain Hunt (R)** **12.50 BBC News** 1.00 **BBC Regional News**: Weather. **1.10 FILM: Ratatouille (2007)** Pixar animated comedy, with the voice of Patton Oswalt. ★★ **2.50 FILM: Monsters vs Aliens (2009)** Animated sci-fi comedy, with the voice of Reese Witherspoon. ★★

## BBC 2



**Mock the Week New Year's Eve Special**, shown at 10.50pm

**6.10 Sign Zone: Secrets of the Castle** with Ruth, Peter and Tom The team explores the construction of a castle's defences. (R) **7.10 Natural World: Empire of the Desert Ants (R)** **8.10 FILM: Saboteur (1942)** Alfred Hitchcock's thriller, starring Robert Cummings. (b/w) ★★ **9.55 Alfred Hitchcock: Talking Pictures (R)** **10.35 FILM: Shadow of a Doubt (1943)** Alfred Hitchcock's thriller, starring Joseph Cotten. (b/w) ★★ **12.20 The Hairy Bikers' Asian Adventure** Dave Myers and Si King are entertained by a geisha in Kyoto. (R) **1.20 FILM: Becoming Jane (2006)** Romantic period drama, starring Anne Hathaway and James McAvoy. ★★

## ITV



**Tommy Cooper: Not Like That, Like This**, shown at 10.00pm

**6.00 Dinner Date** Joel from Manchester picks three blind dates. (R) **7.00 Good Morning Britain** Sir David Attenborough chats to Kate Garraway about his new documentary series: Conquest of the Skies. **8.30 Lorraine** Entertainment and fashion news. **9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show** Guests air their differences. (R) **10.30 Judge Rinder** Real-life cases in a studio courtroom. (R) **11.30 Who's Doing the Dishes?** Footballer Wes Brown plays host. (R) **12.25 All Star Family Fortunes** With Rav Wilding and Blythe Duff. (R) **1.10 ITV News and Weather** **1.20 Secret Dealers** Items include a "grotesque" fish vase and a diamond cluster ring. (R) **2.20 The Queen's Garden (R)**

## Ch4



**The success of Disney's film, Frozen at Christmas**, on at 8.00pm

**6.20 How I Met Your Mother (R)** **6.40 How I Met Your Mother** Britney Spears guest stars. (R) **7.05 Everybody Loves Raymond (R)** **7.30 FILM: The Valley of Gwangi (1969)** Fantasy Western, starring James Franciscus. ★★ **9.20 FILM: The Brady Bunch Movie (1995)** Comedy based on the 1970s sitcom, starring Shelley Long. ★★ **11.00 The Big Bang Theory (R)** **11.25 The Simpsons** Bart is knocked down by Mr Burns' car. (R) **11.55 The Simpsons** Homer fears he has only 24 hours to live. (R) **12.25 FILM: Five Children and It (2004)** Children's fantasy, with Kenneth Branagh. ★★ **2.15 FILM: Home Alone 3 (1997)** Comedy sequel, starring Alex D Linz. ★★

## Ch5



**The success of the Swedish group, The Abba Years**, 12.00am

**6.00 Milkshake! 10.10 World's Strongest Man 2014** Action from the fourth and penultimate heat at the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles, which featured three-time champion Zydrunas Savickas. (R) **11.10 FILM: Carry On Regardless (1961)** Seven bungling handymen have to prove they can hold down a job when their landlord tries to evict them. Slapstick comedy, starring Sid James, Charles Hawtrey and Kenneth Williams. (b/w) ★★ **1.00 FILM: The Vikings (1958)** A Norse warrior fights to claim the Northumbrian throne, unaware his rival for the crown is really his half-brother. Adventure, with Kirk Douglas, Tony Curtis and Janet Leigh. ★★

**4.15 Top of the Pops New Year's Eve** Fearnie Cotton and Reggie Yates review the year in music.

**5.20 Pointless Celebrities** A star-studded version of the unorthodox general knowledge quiz. (R)

**6.05 BBC News**

**6.20 Midlands Today**: Weather.

**6.35 Celebrity Mastermind** Steve Pemberton, Harry Shearer, Kate Thornton and Tony Law answer questions on subjects including the Coen brothers' films, George Michael and Second World War fighter aircraft.

**7.05 Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (2008)** The globe-trotting archaeologist races against Soviet agents to find a mysterious artefact of untold power. Action adventure sequel, starring Harrison Ford and Cate Blanchett. ★★

**9.00 Mapp and Lucia** Miss Lucia introduces a series of musical evenings, although Mapp notices the locals are tiring of her bossy ways and is keen to encourage a revolt. Last in the series.

**10.00 BBC News**: Weather; National Lottery Update

**10.15 The Graham Norton Show** Graham invites another line-up of A-list guests to huddle up on the sofa and help him welcome in the new year.

**11.15 Queen + Adam Lambert Rock Big Ben Live** Brian May and Roger Taylor join forces with Adam Lambert at the Central Hall in London's Westminster, bringing in the new year with a concert of Queen's greatest hits.

**11.55 New Year's Eve Fireworks**

**12.10 Queen + Adam Lambert Rock Big Ben Live 12.30 Mrs Brown's Boys New Year Special (R)** **1.10 John Bishop Live: Elvis Has Left the Building (R)** **2.20 FILM: Old School (2003)** ★★ **3.50 Weather for the Week Ahead** **3.55 BBC News**

**3.10 Coast Australia (R)**

**4.00 Big Dreams Small Spaces** Horticulturalist Monty Don helps amateur gardeners on the south coast of England and in Snowdonia who are battling the elements as they attempt to create idyllic outdoor spaces. (R)

**5.00 Wild Brazil** The animals look for breeding partners. Last in the series. (R)

**6.00 Flog It!** Catherine Southon and Mark Stacey locate interesting items at St Petroc's Church in Bodmin, Cornwall. (R)

**7.00 Tigers About the House - What Happened Next** First of a two-part programme catching up with zookeeper Giles Clark and the Sumatran tiger cubs, he was hand-rearing in his home in the suburbs of Queensland.

**8.00 Christmas University Challenge** Two teams of distinguished graduates compete on behalf of their former universities in the first semi-final of the academic quiz's festive series. Jeremy Paxman hosts.

**8.30 The Help (2011)** Premiere. An aspiring journalist in 1960s Mississippi creates controversy by giving black servants the chance to tell their stories. Drama, starring Emma Stone and Viola Davis. ★★

**10.50 Mock the Week New Year's Eve Special** A selection of out-takes, quizzes and favourite clips. Last in the series.

**11.20 Jools' Annual Hootenanny 2014** With Ronnie Spector, Ed Sheeran, Bob Scaggs, Paolo Nutini, Ellie Goulding, William Bell, Paloma Faith, Wilko Johnson, Joss Stone, Clean Bandit with Jess Glynne and Hayseed Dixie. **1.35 Glastonbury 2014 Highlights** A selection of performances from the festival at Worthy Farm in Somerset. **3.40 This Is BBC Two**

**3.25 Goldfinger (1964)** James Bond adventure, starring Sean Connery. ★★

**5.35 The Chase** Quiz show, hosted by Bradley Walsh. (R)

**6.30 ITV News Central**: Weather.

**6.45 ITV News and Weather** **7.00 Emmerdale** Samson finds one of Belle's pills and tells Zak and Lisa, Jimmy worries about Nicola when she heads straight back to work and Robert feels torn between Chrissie and Aaron.

**7.30 Coronation Street** Liz tells Steve he can borrow from the Rovers' account to pay his staff, David lets Michael move into No 8 after he is evicted and Gary apologises to Roy for breaking into the cafe.

**8.00 Rita & Me** Fifty years after Barbara Knox's first appearance on Coronation Street, this programme looks back on her character Rita's greatest moments on the cobbles.

**9.00 A Funny Old Year 2014** Jason Manford presents this end-of-year comedy review show - a humorous celebration of the highs and lows of the past 12 months, from the brilliant to the infuriating.

**10.00 Tommy Cooper: Not Like That, Like This** Biopic of the hugely popular comedian, who was in love with two women and unable to choose between them. Starring David Threlfall (Shameless), with Amanda Redman and Helen McCrory. (R)

**11.55 ITV News and Weather and New Year's Bongs** The headlines, followed by Big Ben.

**12.10 FILM: Carry On Camping (1969)** Two men hatch a plan to lure their unsuspecting girlfriends to a nudist camp and introduce them to a life of wild abandon. Bawdy comedy, starring Sid James. ★★ **1.40 The Jeremy Kyle Show** (R) **2.25 ITV News** **2.50 The Jeremy Kyle Show (R)**

**4.20 Fantastic Mr Fox (2009)** Stop-motion animated adventure, with the voice of George Clooney. ★★

**6.00 The Simpsons** Lisa tries to make amends for cheating in an exam, but the school authorities turn a deaf ear to her confession that she bought the answers from Nelson. (R)

**6.30 Hollyoaks** Hour-long episode. A desperate Nancy puts herself in danger, while Joe decides he must find out the truth about Freddie, and Robbie stands up to his dad.

**7.30 Channel 4 News** Including sport and weather.

**8.00 Frozen at Christmas** The makers of Disney's Frozen, the most successful animated film of all time, talk about its creation and production, and the writing and performance of its most popular songs. (R)

**9.00 Alan Carr's New Year Spectacular** The comedian is joined by Jonathan Ross, Gok Wan, Alesha Dixon, Mark Wright, James Corden, Caroline Flack and Seann Walsh, with music by Tulisa Contostavlos and Professor Green.

**11.05 50 Funniest Moments 2014** Famous faces help count down the year's top 50 hilarious incidents across the worlds of TV, music, sport, politics and the internet - most of them unintentional. (R)

**12.40 C4's 30 Greatest Comedy Shows** Celebrating some of the station's most impressive comedy series, exploring the impact shows including Father Ted, Spaced and The Inbetweeners have had on British TV. (R) **2.30 The IT Crowd** Moss and Roy display curious symptoms. (R) **2.55 The IT Crowd** Jen deals with a difficult builder. (R) **3.20 The IT Crowd** Roy and Moss reveal in their masculinity. (R) **3.50 Phil Spencer: Secret Agent (R)** **4.45 Kirstie's Handmade Treasures (R)** **4.55 Secret Eaters (R)** **5.50 How I Met Your Mother (R)**

**3.10 The Dirty Dozen (1967)** Second World War action adventure, with Lee Marvin. ★★

**6.05 Tommy Cooper's Christmas Special** Festive edition of the comic magician's show from 1974, featuring music by Dana and Vic Damone and a guest appearance by French puppeteer Andre Tahon. (R)

**7.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away** High Court enforcement officers Paul Bohill and Steve and Ben Pinner face their biggest eviction yet, as they take on squatters in a large central London office block; (R) **5 News Update**

**8.00 World's Strongest Man 2014** Action from the fifth and final heat at the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles, which featured defending champion Brian Shaw and Britain's Graham Hicks; **5 News at 9**

**9.00 Britain's Favourite Sitcoms** Mel Giedroyc narrates a countdown of the nation's 50 best-loved TV comedies, as voted for by Channel 5 viewers in an online poll.

**12.00 The Abba Years** The success of the Swedish group, exploring the flamboyant outfits, hit records, successful spin-offs, marriages and break-ups. Featuring interviews with the band members. (R) **1.00 SuperCasino** Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10 World's Strongest Man 2014** Action from the fourth and penultimate heat at the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles, which featured three-time champion Zydrunas Savickas. (R) **4.00 Great Scientists** The life and legacy of Charles Darwin, one of the most controversial scientists of all time, whose theory of evolution caused a storm in Victorian society. (R) **4.25 Chinese Food in Minutes** Steamed wine sea bass and a spicy beef dish. (R) **4.30 Chinese Food in Minutes** Ching-He Huang teaches two rugby players to prepare oriental dishes. (R) **4.45 House Doctor (R)** **5.10 House Doctor (R)** **5.35 Wildlife SOS (R)**

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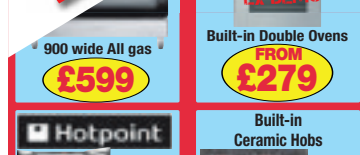
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# New Year's Day

BBC 1	BBC 2	ITV	Ch4	Ch5
 <p><b>Gary Lineker presents Match of the Day, shown at 10.35pm</b></p> <p>6.00 <b>Breakfast</b> Round-up of national and international news, plus the latest from the money markets. 9.00 <b>FILM: Bee Movie</b> (2007) Animated comedy, with the voice of Jerry Seinfeld. ★★★ 10.25 <b>FILM: Over the Hedge</b> (2006) Animated comedy, with the voice of Bruce Willis. ★★★ 11.40 <b>Life Story: The Full Circle</b> Highlights of the natural history series. 12.45 <b>The Archbishop of Canterbury's New Year Message</b> By the Most Rev Justin Welby. 12.50 <b>BBC News</b> 1.00 <b>BBC Regional News</b>; Weather. 1.10 <b>The Boy in the Dress</b> David Williams' story about a youngster who wants to be different. (R) 2.10 <b>FILM: Mary Poppins</b> (1964) Disney musical fantasy, with Julie Andrews. ★★★</p>	 <p><b>Jeremy Paxman hosts Christmas University Challenge, 8.30pm</b></p> <p>6.15 <b>Sign Zone: The Great Interior Design Challenge</b> (R) 7.15 <b>Sign Zone: Close Calls: On Camera</b> (R) 7.45 <b>Alec Guinness: Talking Pictures</b> (R) 8.30 <b>FILM: The Lavender Hill Mob</b> (1951) (b/w) ★★★★★ 9.50 <b>FILM: A Hard Day's Night</b> (1964) (b/w) ★★★★★ 11.15 <b>New Year's Day Concert Live from Vienna</b> Coverage of the Vienna Philharmonic's traditional New Year's Day concert. 12.50 <b>Snow Wolf Family and Me Part one of two</b>. Gordon Buchanan explores the lives and habits of Arctic wolves. (R) 1.50 <b>Snow Wolf Family and Me Part two of two</b>. Gordon Buchanan follows the wolves as they hunt. (R) 2.50 <b>FILM: Galaxy Quest</b> (1999) Sci-fi comedy, starring Tim Allen. ★★★</p>	 <p><b>New You've Been Framed! At Christmas, shown at 7.00pm</b></p> <p>6.00 <b>CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show!</b> (R) 6.20 <b>Pat &amp; Stan</b> (R) 6.30 <b>Dino Dan</b> (R) 6.55 <b>Dino Dan</b> (R) 7.00 <b>Animals</b> (R) 7.10 <b>Sooty</b> (R) 7.25 <b>A Grizzly New Year's Tale</b> (R) 7.55 <b>Super 4</b> (R) 8.10 <b>Super 4</b> (R) 8.25 <b>Dinner Date</b> Lucy from Surrey hopes to find love. (R) 9.25 <b>The Jeremy Kyle Show</b> 10.20 <b>Judge Rinder</b> Real-life cases in a studio courtroom. (R) 11.20 <b>Who's Doing the Dishes?</b> Tricia Penrose plays host. (R) 12.25 <b>All Star Family Fortunes</b> With Nadia Sawalha and Jane Cox. (R) 1.25 <b>ITV News and Weather</b> 1.35 <b>Secret Dealers</b> The dealers bid on a Victorian silver-mounted scent bottle. 2.35 <b>You've Been Framed!</b> Comedy clips, including a cat that refuses to be put down. (R)</p>	 <p><b>Alex Zane presents Rude Tube Welcome to 2015, shown at 10.30pm</b></p> <p>6.15 <b>FILM: The Three Worlds of Gulliver</b> (1960) Fantasy adventure, starring Kerwin Mathews. ★★★ 7.55 <b>FILM: The 7th Voyage of Sinbad</b> (1958) The wily sailor pits his wits against an evil magician to save a princess on an island inhabited by hideous monsters. Fantasy adventure, starring Kerwin Mathews and Kathryn Grant. ★★★ 9.45 <b>The Big Bang Theory</b> Penny arranges a date for Raj. (R) 10.10 <b>The Big Bang Theory</b> Sheldon's old adversary Wil Wheaton returns. (R) 10.40 <b>The Simpsons</b> Marge recalls how she met Homer. (R) 11.10 <b>FILM: The Last Mimzy</b> (2007) Children's fantasy, starring Chris O'Neill. ★★★★★ 1.00 <b>Channel 4 Racing</b> Nick Luck presents live coverage of six races.</p>	 <p><b>Andy and Maggie Robin feature, Hercules the Human Bear, 7.30pm</b></p> <p>6.00 <b>Milkshake!</b> 9.45 <b>Access</b> Showbiz news and gossip. (R) 10.00 <b>World's Strongest Man 2014</b> Action from the fifth and final heat at the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles, which featured defending champion Brian Shaw and Britain's Graham Hicks. (R) 11.00 <b>FILM: The Dam Busters</b> (1954) An engineer designs an ingenious bouncing bomb to destroy major dams in Germany's industrial heartland. Fact-based Second World War drama, with Michael Redgrave. (b/w) ★★★★★ 1.25 <b>FILM: The Italian Job</b> (1969) A crook recruits a gang to steal \$4million in gold bullion and make a quick getaway from central Turin in a fleet of Minis. Crime comedy, starring Michael Caine. ★★★</p>
<p>4.25 <b>The Adventures of Tintin: The Secret of the Unicorn</b> (2011) Premiere. A reporter goes on a globe-trotting quest to find a sunken ship containing a pirate's lost treasure. Animated adventure, with the voices of Jamie Bell and Andy Serkis. ★★★</p> <p>6.05 <b>BBC News</b></p> <p>6.20 <b>Midlands Today</b>; Weather.</p> <p>6.30 <b>Roald Dahl's Esio Trot</b> Dustin Hoffman and Judi Dench star in this adaptation of Roald Dahl's story about retired bachelor Mr Hoppy, who hits upon a cunning plan to romance his neighbour Mrs Silver.</p> <p>8.00 <b>Miranda</b> The very last episode of the hit sitcom sees the shopkeeper making one final attempt to accept herself and find contentment. Miranda Hart stars, with Patricia Hodge and Tom Ellis.</p> <p>8.30 <b>EastEnders</b> Hour-long episode. After the drama of Christmas, the good folk of Walford turn their attention to the new year - and things get off to an explosive start.</p> <p>9.35 <b>Mrs Brown's Boys</b> The second of two festive episodes. Agnes increases her home security after a spate of local burglaries, while Cathy is feeling broody, giving lovelorn Buster Brady an idea.</p> <p>10.10 <b>BBC News</b></p> <p>10.25 <b>BBC Regional News</b>; Weather.</p> <p>10.35 <b>Match of the Day</b> Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Tottenham Hotspur v Chelsea at White Hart Lane and Southampton v Arsenal at St Mary's Stadium.</p> <p>12.10 <b>Tony Bennett &amp; Lady Gaga: Cheek to Cheek Live!</b> The unlikely music duo take to the stage in New York. (R) 1.05 <b>FILM: Road Trip</b> (2000) Comedy, starring Breckin Meyer, Tom Green and Seann William Scott. ★★ 2.35 <b>Skiing</b> Weatherview 2.40 <b>BBC News</b></p>	<p>4.25 <b>The Archbishop of Canterbury's New Year Message</b> By the Most Rev Justin Welby. (R)</p> <p>4.30 <b>Final Score</b> A round-up of this afternoon's football results.</p> <p>5.30 <b>Force 10 from Navarone</b> (1978) A commando mission to destroy a bridge in the Balkans that is vital to the Nazis is jeopardised by a traitor. Second World War adventure sequel, with Harrison Ford and Robert Shaw. ★★</p> <p>7.30 <b>Tigers About the House - What Happened Next</b> Part two of two. The Clarks see the harsh reality of tiger poaching in Indonesia, while Spot faces an operation that may end with him losing all vision.</p> <p>8.30 <b>Christmas University Challenge</b> Two teams of distinguished graduates compete on behalf of their former universities in the second semi-final of the festive edition of the academic quiz. Jeremy Paxman hosts.</p> <p>9.00 <b>Quartet</b> (2012) Premiere. Three former opera singers' plans for a fundraising concert for their retirement home are disrupted by a new arrival. Comedy drama, with Maggie Smith and Billy Connolly. ★★★</p> <p>10.30 <b>Julie Walters: A Life on Screen</b> The actress chats about her career, from her beginnings in theatre through to her successes in TV and film. With contributions by Victoria Wood, Celia Imrie and Hugh Bonneville. (R)</p> <p>11.30 <b>Mock the Week New Year's Eve Special</b> Dara O Briain presents a selection of out-takes, quizzes and favourite clips. Last in the series. (R)</p> <p>12.05 <b>FILM: Frenzy</b> (1972) Thriller, starring John F. Kennedy. ★★ 1.55 <b>FILM: Stick It</b> (2006) Comedy, starring Missy Peregrym. ★★ 3.35 <b>This Is BBC Two</b></p>	<p>3.05 <b>Thunderball</b> (1965) James Bond sets out to foil a plot by crime syndicate Spectre to detonate two nuclear warheads off the US coast. Spy adventure, with Sean Connery, Claudine Auger and Adolfo Celi. ★★</p> <p>5.45 <b>Rita &amp; Me</b> Barbara Knox looks back on her 50-year career on Coronation Street. (R)</p> <p>6.45 <b>ITV News and Weather</b></p> <p>7.00 <b>New You've Been Framed! At Christmas</b> Harry Hill narrates a festive selection of comedy clips, featuring a photo-bombing reindeer, an explosive chimney and a squirrel wrecking his neighbour's Christmas lights. (R)</p> <p>7.30 <b>Emmerdale</b> Hour-long episode. Belle persuades Lachlan to try one of the pills, but he struggles with the effects and takes a turn for the worse. Harriet tells Finn she has news about his mum.</p> <p>8.30 <b>Birds of a Feather</b> Sharon amazes the others with her high IQ, and Dorien, under pressure to find a heroine for her next book, decides to push her toward a surprising new career.</p> <p>9.00 <b>The Dark Knight</b> (2008) Premiere. Batman is pushed to breaking point as criminal mastermind the Joker plunges Gotham City into chaos. Comic-book thriller sequel, with Christian Bale and Heath Ledger. ★★</p> <p>11.55 <b>ITV News and Weather</b></p> <p>12.00 <b>The Cube</b> A Londoner hopes to win enough money to take his family to Australia, while a police officer from the West Midlands thinks she is tough enough to walk away with the jackpot. (R) 12.50 <b>Jackpot247</b> Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. 3.00 <b>The Jeremy Kyle Show</b> USA (R) 3.40 <b>ITV News</b> 5.05 <b>The Jeremy Kyle Show</b> (R)</p>	<p>3.30 <b>Guy Martin's Passion for Life</b> Documentary following the life of the motorcycle racer and lorry mechanic. (R)</p> <p>4.00 <b>Channel 4 News</b> Including sport and weather.</p> <p>4.10 <b>The Wizard of Oz</b> (1939) A tornado whisks a girl off to a magical land where she embarks on a journey in search of the wizard who knows the way home. Musical fantasy, with Judy Garland and Ray Bolger. ★★★★★</p> <p>6.10 <b>Sister Act</b> (1992) A nightclub singer is sent to live in a convent for her own protection after agreeing to testify against a brutal gangster. Comedy, starring Whoopi Goldberg and Harvey Keitel. Edited for language. ★★</p> <p>8.00 <b>Snow White &amp; the Huntsman</b> (2012) Premiere. A princess joins forces with the warrior sent to kill her to overthrow an evil queen. Fantasy adventure, starring Kristen Stewart, Chris Hemsworth and Charlize Theron. Edited for violence. ★★</p> <p>10.30 <b>Rude Tube Welcome to 2015</b> Alex Zane explores the 100 most popular internet videos of the past 12 months in a two-hour special, featuring the spider-dog prank.</p> <p>12.35 <b>FILM: The Godfather</b> (1972) A crime boss entrusts control of his business to his three sons after an attempt is made on his life. Francis Ford Coppola's gangster drama, starring Marlon Brando. ★★★★★</p> <p>3.30 <b>Trans World Sport</b> Including a profile of wheelchair rugby in Australia, the Carolina Duke US college basketball rivalry and an interview with Goran Ivanisevic.</p> <p>4.30 <b>Phil Spencer: Secret Agent</b> The property expert helps a couple on the Wirral whose five-bedroom semi looks like a student residence. (R) 5.25 <b>Hugh's 3 Good Things: Best Bites</b> (R) 5.40 <b>Small Animal Hospital</b> (R)</p>	<p>3.30 <b>Ben-Hur</b> (1959) A Jewish prince is betrayed by his Roman friend and sold into slavery, but returns years later to seek revenge. Oscar-winning epic, starring Charlton Heston and Stephen Boyd. ★★★★★</p> <p>7.30 <b>Hercules the Human Bear</b> The story of Andy and Maggie Robin's 25-year relationship with a grizzly bear they bought as a cub from an Aviemore zoo, and which went on to become a star of TV and films. (R)</p> <p>8.30 <b>World's Strongest Man 2014</b> Action from the Grand Final at the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles, which featured the 12 qualifiers from the five heats. Last in the series. 5 News Update</p> <p>9.35 <b>White Dee: What's All the Fuss About?</b> Dee Kelly reveals how appearing on Benefits Street changed her life, leading to new-found fame and featuring public appearances, photoshoots, newspaper interviews and politics.</p> <p>10.35 <b>Celeb Big Brother: The Good, the Bad and the Unforgettable</b> Emma Willis narrates a selection of memorable moments from the reality show, including George Galloway pretending to be a cat and Lionel Blair dressed in bondage gear.</p> <p>12.35 <b>Jim Davidson: At Least I'm Not Boring</b> The comedian gives an insight into the highs and lows of his colourful personal and professional life, from hosting The Generation Game to appearing in Celebrity Big Brother. (R) 1.35 <b>SuperCasino</b> Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. 4.00 <b>Wildlife SOS</b> The work of volunteers at an animal sanctuary. (R) 4.20 <b>Wildlife SOS</b> The work of volunteers at an animal sanctuary. (R) 4.45 <b>House Doctor</b> Ann Maurice helps a couple sell their three-bedroom detached house. (R) 5.10 <b>House Doctor</b> (R) 5.35 <b>Wildlife SOS</b> (R)</p>



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# TOWN & COUNTRY

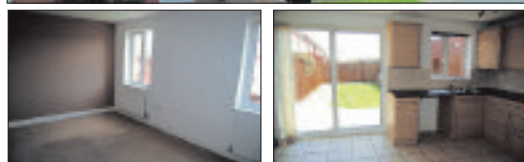
## PROPERTY SERVICES



**GREENSFORGE LANE STOURTON**

An elegant and impressive house set in a mature wooded setting offering both seclusion and privacy and being close to Stourbridge, having excellent road links and schools. The accommodation comprises of: Reception Hall, drawing room, library, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, utility, games room, conservatory, cloakroom, cellars, master bedroom with en-suite, five further bedrooms and two bathrooms. The property further boasts integral garaging, driveway affording parking, beautiful terraced garden with mature woodland, all weather tennis court and outbuildings. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = F DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: MAY SMOKERS: NO

**£5000PCM DEPOSIT £10000 + FEES**

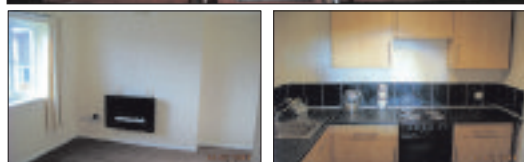


**BICKON DRIVE QUARRY BANK**

A delightful modern three storey four bedroom Town House with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance hall, downstairs WC, study/slug, kitchen/diner, lounge, four bedrooms, master with en-suite and bathroom. The property further boasts gas central heating, double glazing, lawned fore garden, enclosed rear garden with patio area and single garage. PART FURNISHED EPC RATING = C

DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

**£695PCM - DEPOSIT £795 + FEES**



**FOXDALE DRIVE BRIERLEY HILL**

A beautiful two bedroom first floor apartment in a popular residential development. The property benefits from double glazing and allocated parking. The accommodation comprises of: Communal entrance hall, Private entrance hall, 'L' Shaped Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom and Two Bedrooms

UNFURNISHED EPC RATING=C DSS:NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO CHILDREN: MAY

**£400PCM DEPOSIT £500 + FEES**

**QUARRY PARK ROAD STOURBRIDGE**



An impressive seven bedroom detached family home situated in a very desirable location and being close to Hagley village. The accommodation comprises of: Grand reception hall, sitting room, drawing room, dining room, breakfast kitchen, conservatory, utility, cloakroom, rear entrance hall, seven double bedrooms five of which have en suite facilities, family bathroom and a spacious first floor landing/seating area with door out to a balcony. The property further boasts paved parking for numerous vehicles, single garage with up and over garage doors and landscaped lawned gardens. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

**£2999PCM DEPOSIT £3099 + FEES**

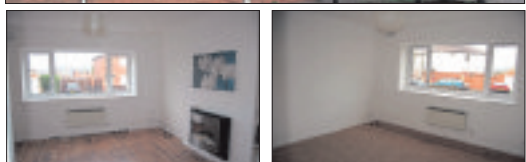


**BIRMINGHAM NEW ROAD COSELEY**

A very well presented two bedroom second floor Apartment with accommodation comprising of: Communal entrance with video entry phone system & communal staircase to 2nd floor, private entrance hall with built in airing cupboard, open plan lounge/kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from having electric storage heating, double glazing and secure gated complex with parking space. FURNISHED EPC RATING = D

DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

**£550.00PCM DEPOSIT £650 + FEES**



**KNOYLE COURT STOURBRIDGE**

An extremely well presented two bedroom ground floor flat situated in a popular residential location close to Stourbridge Town Centre. Accommodation comprises of Entrance hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, two bedrooms and refitted bathroom. The property further benefits from electric heating, double glazing and allocated parking. Viewing essential UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = F DSS:NO PETS:NO CHILDREN:YES SMOKERS:NO

SERVICE CHARGE £52.50PCM

**£425PCM DEPOSIT £525 + FEES**

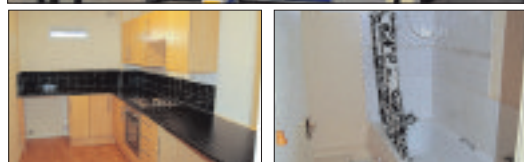


**OLD MILL FARM HOUSE BROMSGROVE ROAD**

An Impressive Five Bedroom Property covering Three Storeys, being set in a Highly Sought After Rural Location. Accommodation comprises: Ground Floor - Three Reception Rooms, Kitchen, Utility, Downstairs WC and Lobby. First Floor - Bedrooms One and Two, both with En-Suites Shower Rooms Bedroom has En-Suite Bathroom. Second Floor - Bedrooms Four and Five and House Bathroom. In addition to a large Cellar there is a Double Garage, Storage Buildings and outside WC. The Property is approached by a gravelled driveway leading to the rear of the property where there is ample off road parking. UNFURNISHED

EPC RATING = F DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: MAY SMOKERS: NO

**£2000PCM DEPOSIT £2100 + FEES**

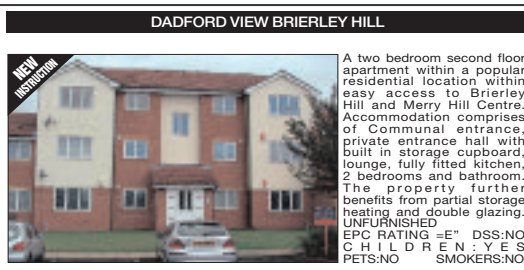


**HAGLEY ROAD HALESOWEN**

A deceptively spacious three bedroom first floor flat situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Private Entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom and separate WC. The property further benefits from having night storage heating and double glazing.

UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: MAY CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKING: NO

**£425PCM DEPOSIT £525 + FEES**



**DADFORD VIEW BRIERLEY HILL**

A two bedroom second floor apartment within a popular residential location within easy access to Brierley Hill and Merry Hill Centre. Accommodation comprises of Communal entrance, private entrance hall with built in storage cupboard, lounge, fully fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from partial storage heating and double glazing. UNFURNISHED

EPC RATING = E+ DSS:NO CHILDREN: YES PETS:NO SMOKERS:NO

**£380PCM DEPOSIT £480 + FEES**



**BRETTELL LANE AMBLECOTE**

A spacious one bedroom first floor flat located for easy access to Merry Hill centre with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, bedroom one and bathroom. The property further benefits from having gas central heating, and double glazing. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: MAY CONSIDER CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

**£375PCM DEPOSIT £475 + FEES**

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# Moving forward together

Have you ever wondered what 'plant hire' actually means? Well it can mean the leasing of immense machines which handle the largest of engineering projects.

Titan Plant Hire in Bilston is a part of the Gill Group of companies. It specialises in supplying logistical support for all of the group, especially the large-scale projects carried out by the Gill Civil Engineering arm. This includes laying vast areas of concrete at airports and marine ports around the country. And transporting staff to and from project destinations.



Mark Woodward manages Titan Plant Hire and he has a busy schedule supporting the needs of such a large and diverse company. He explains the range of support provided: "We have a trouble-shooting and rapid response role within the Gill Group. Our main focus is to supply Gill Civil Engineering with plant, but that brings with it the need for maintenance schedules, operator's licences, tachograph recordings and other related regulatory activities to keep the business working."

"The range of jobs is immense and we operate across the UK."

## Positive

"We have a fleet of trucks fitted with cranes and many personnel carriers to transport our staff, and these come from Greenhouse Commercials in Willenhall with who we have a long and positive relationship."

"Greenhouse DAF has supplied Titan with two 18T, one 12T and two 26T trucks fitted with new remote Hiab cranes which will make our loading and unloading operations faster and more efficient, and with new engine technology which produces lower emissions and better fuel economy of up to 20 per cent, we will reduce our company's carbon footprint."

Titan has a further two 26T and two 18T trucks on order for delivery this month. The order book for new work is very healthy, showing the signs of economic recovery are certainly tangible in terms of infrastructure construction.

Mark reflects on what he is looking for in the vehicles he purchases from Greenhouse. "We need robust, reliable vehicles with a very good fuel economy and we get this with our fleet of DAF and Vauxhall vehicles. With the new fleet we will maximise



**'We need robust, reliable vehicles with a very good fuel economy'**

the efficiency of our deliveries, but also improve the safety for pedestrians and our staff. The high level of customer service we get from the staff at Greenhouse DAF is a major reason why we deal with the company."

Titan employs a lot of staff on projects and so it needs pick-ups, minibuses and vans to transport staff and tools around the country.

Its fleet is continually refreshed and it

has around 20 Vauxhall vehicles at present provided through Greenhouse Vauxhall Commercial in Willenhall.

Any logistical operator requires the best quality of service as well as excellent vehicles fit for purpose, hard-wearing, easily maintained and low on maintenance costs.

Titan Plant Hire Ltd has established a strong, trusting relationship with Greenhouse Commercials laying the foundations for a strong and long-lasting partnership.

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61 C3 Picasso 1.6 HDI VTR+ Blue 25k	£7,495
11 C3 Picasso 1.6 HDI VTR+ Green 12k	£7,795
61 C4 G Picas 1.6 HDI VTR EGS Red 38k	£9,295
61 C4 G Picas 1.6 HDI VTR+ EGS Blue 27k	£9,795
61 C4 G Picas 1.6 HDI VTR+ EGS Grey 21k	£10,495
61 C4 G Picas 1.6 HDI VTR+ Silver 14k	£10,795
08 C4 G Picas 1.8 VTR+ Brown 27k	£5,795
57 C4 Picasso 1.6 HDI VTR+ EGS Blue 54k	£5,795
57 C4 Picasso 1.6 HDI VTR+ Gold 34k	£5,995
59 C6 2.7 HDI Exclusive Auto Grey	£7,995
57 C6 2.7 HDI Lignage Auto Silver 61k	£7,295
07 Picasso 1.6 HDI VTX Red 86k	£3,295

Ford	Retail:
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60 Fiesta 1.2 Zetec White 12k	£7,795
11 Fiesta 1.4 Titanium Auto Vision Blue 24k	£7,795
11 Focus 1.6 Zetec Black 20k	£8,995
10 Fusion 1.4 TDCI Zetec Grey 24k	£6,795
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59 Qashqai 1.5 DCI Acenta Black 43k	£9,295
61 Qashqai 1.6 Acenta Black 11k	£11,495
61 Qashqai 1.6 Acenta Silver 13k	£11,295

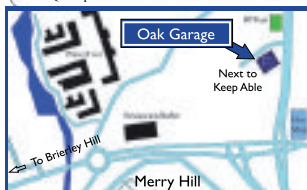
Peugeot	Retail:
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57 207 1.4 S SW Est Silver 37k	£4,495
61 3008 1.6 HDI Access Silver 15k	£8,995
61 3008 1.6 HDI Sport EGC Brown 23k	£9,495
61 308 1.6 HDI Access 5dr Grey 21k	£8,995

Renault	Retail:
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VAUXHALL



# Great savers from Vauxhall

## Commercial feature

### Vauxhall Corsa Excite 1.2 16 Valve 3-dr A/C

If you are looking for a Vauxhall Corsa that will really excite yet is at a real bargain price then look no further than the Vauxhall Corsa Excite 1.2 16-valve 3-dr at your local dealership.

At just £8,995 you will be saving a massive £3,640 off the recommended retail price.

But you will have to be quick because at this price this model won't be a round for long.

Once they are gone they are gone.

This Excite 1.2 comes with 16 inch alloy wheels, a mobile phone system with Blue-Tooth, front fog lights and a graphic information display as well as a CD/MP3 CD player with USB/aux in socket and stereo radio.

The Vauxhall Corsa has a renowned reputation for its driving experience as well as being one of the most economical cars on the road.

This Corsa Excite 1.2 will make the most wonderful Christmas present too.

### Vauxhall Corsa Limited Edition 1.3 CDTi 3-dr

If diesel is your requirement then take a look at the Corsa Limited Edition 1.3 CDTi 3-dr. At just £12,995 you

will be saving £3,170 off the recommended retail price.

This Corsa comes with pre-registration delivery mileage, a body kit, 17 inch alloy wheels, body coloured front lower spoiler, side skirts and rear spoiler, front fog lamps, air conditioning and cruise control.

Safety-wise, the Corsa Limited Edition comes with six air bags and ABS is standard of course, and when you activate it above 18mph, the brake lights flash to warn following cars.

Should your airbags deploy, the hazards will flash too.

This is a formidable package for the price and with its reliable and economical diesel engine, this Corsa Limited Edition is just great value for money too.

### Vauxhall Corsa VX-R 1.6i Turbo 192PS 3-dr

For those of a sporting nature, take a look at the Corsa VX-R 1.6i Turbo 192PS 3-dr. This is an opportunity to own a remarkable car with a renowned pedigree.

For just £229.55 per month on a personal contract hire package you could be driving away in this fabulous car.

It comes with air conditioning, cruise control, CD/MP3 CD player with USB/aux in socket and stereo radio, Recaro shell-backed sports seats and VX-R front fog lights with alloy reflective surrounds.

Some of the detailing both inside and out is exquisite and Vauxhall has certainly pulled out the stops to differentiate the



**'This is a formidable package for the price and with its reliable and economical diesel engine, this Corsa Limited Edition is just great value for money.'**

VX-R from humbler Corsa offerings. The cabin is dominated by the specially-designed shell-backed Recaro seats which offer outstanding support and comfort.

The flat-bottomed steering wheel is another upmarket feature that will set the enthusiast's heart aflutter and you have the general build quality of the standard Corsa which is as good as anything in the segment.

Vauxhall has done a thorough job of making this Corsa VX-R feel special.

Whichever way you look at it, it's obviously no ordinary Corsa and at the wheel, its power and poise never fail to entertain.

It's the car's ability to deliver indecent pace when roused but still remain comparatively mild-mannered in everyday circumstances that marks the Corsa VX-R 1.6i Turbo out. It's not the absolute head-case that its styling suggests and beneath that snarling bodywork is a comfortable, beautifully-detailed interior that you'll rarely tire of sitting in.

# 3 CORSA SAVERS

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• 16" alloy wheels • Front fog lights • Graphic information display  
• CD/MP3 CD player/USB/aux-in socket/stereo radio (CD40)

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### CORSA LIMITED EDITION 1.3 CDTi 3DR



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• Body-colour, front lower spoiler, side sills and rear spoiler  
• Front fog lights • Air conditioning • Cruise control

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### VAUXHALL CORSA VX-R 1.6i TURBO 192PS 3DR



Specification includes: Air conditioning • Cruise control • CD/MP3 CD player/aux-in/stereo radio (CD 30 MP3) • Recaro shell-backed sports front seats • VX-R front fog lights with alloy-effect surround

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km). Lowest: Vauxhall Corsa 3 Door Hatchback 1.2i 85PS 16v Excite A/C with 14", 15" and 16" wheels, M5: Urban: 39.2 (7.2), Extra-urban: 62.8 (4.5), Combined: 51.4 (5.5). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 129g/km. Highest: Vauxhall Corsa 3 dr Hatchback 1.6i 16V 192PS VXR Turbo (A/C) with 17" wheels, M6: Urban: 28.8 (9.8), Extra-urban: 47.9 (5.9), Combined: 38.7 (7.3). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 172g/km

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- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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- Return coach travel
- Three nights half-board accommodation
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- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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## Welsh Association of Male Voice Choirs at the Royal Albert Hall

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- Single rooms subject to availability – supplement applies

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- Entrance to The Alnwick Garden
- Visit to Durham
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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## Norfolk Gardens and the Lavender Harvest

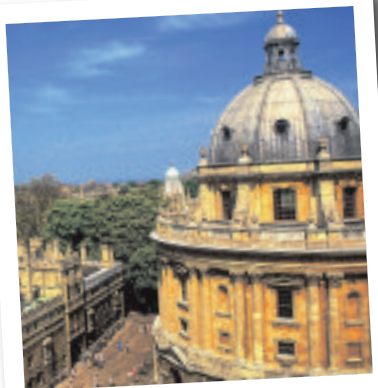
Three days departing July 3



**PRICE FROM £219**

- Return coach travel
- Two nights half-board accommodation
- Norfolk Lavender Caley Mill grounds tour
- Visit the Lavender Oil Distillery
- Cream tea and lavender scones
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- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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**PRICE FROM £219**

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**PRICE FROM £125**

- Return coach travel
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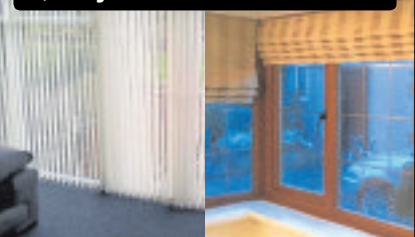
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**0800 7723998**  
**07467 129189**



### Roberts Guttering Services

For All aspects  
 of cleaning &  
 repair call  
 Robert for a  
 free quote on  
**07767869792**

## Property Maintenance

### ROWAN PROPERTY MAINTENANCE LTD

★ Interior/Exterior Painting And Decorating  
 ★ All Aspects Of Plastering And  
 Specialist Machine Rendering  
 ★ Rendering ★ Fascias, Soffits & Guttering  
 ★ Flooring And Tiling ★ Plus Much More....  
**CALL NOW FOR A NO OBLIGATION QUOTATION**  
**01384 213644 or 07733 226568**

AGE CONCERN & LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTRACTOR, CITY & GUILD QUALIFIED,  
 PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE (£5 MILLION) ALL STAFF C.R.B. CERTIFIED  
**PART OF THE ROWAN GROUP OF COMPANIES**

## Specialists

**CATCH COSY FROM COSY**  
 Log Burning Multi Fuel Stoves  
 Solid Fuel and Gas Chimney Liners  
 Full and Fast Installation Service



For your free home consultation and quote call:  
**0121 663 0156**



# Classified Ads

Buy Local, Sell Local

## Index

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- 2 Leisure Time
- 3 Home & Services
- 4 Pets & Animals
- 5 Business & Farming
- 6 Property
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# FreeAds

# IT'S FREE IT'S EASY

For items up to £250

## VISIT:

[www.expressandstar.com/bookanad](http://www.expressandstar.com/bookanad)

Simply press the free ad icon.  
Sorry, no pets, guns or livestock.  
Private advertisers only.

## Telephone line opening times over the festive period.

Monday, December 22	8.30am - 5.30pm
Tuesday, December 23	8.30am - 5.30pm
Christmas Eve, Wed 24	8.30am till 2pm
Christmas Day, Thurs 25	Closed
Boxing Day, Friday 26	Closed
Saturday, December 27	Closed as normal
Monday, December 29	8.30am - 5.30pm
Tuesday, December 30	8.30am - 5.30pm
New Years Eve, Wed 31	8.30am till 2pm
New Years Day, Thurs 1	Closed
Friday, January 2	8.30am - 5.30pm
Saturday, January 3	Closed as normal

Please note that our deadlines will be subject to change considerably over the Christmas period. Please call 01902 317 878 for any further information.

## funeral directors

**Wombourne Funeral Services**  
3rd Generation Family Business & Monumental Masons  
24hr Personal Service  
Private Chapels of Rest  
Pre-paid Funeral Plans  
Wombourne 01902 892655  
Perton 01902 756850  
Kinver 01384 873499

## J.T. BROOKES

**Independent family run Funeral Directors**  
24 hour service  
Brierley Hill 01384 77098  
Kingswinford 01384 296683  
Hagley 01562 888041  
[www.nedowning.co.uk](http://www.nedowning.co.uk)

## lost & found

**LOST** - Small, all black, young male cat, missing since December 7, chipped but no collar. Codsall area. Reward. 01902 842067.  
**LOST** - Wedding ring. Kinver. Tuesday, December 9. If found please call 01384 878358.



**MISSING MALE CAT**  
Missing from Short Heath area (WV12).  
Chipped and neutered. Fear he may have been taken out of the area.  
Loved and missed by heartbroken Children.  
Reward on information leading to safe return.  
Call 07876 492041 with any information.



**MISSING MALE CAT**  
Missing from Short Heath area (WV12).  
Chipped and neutered. Fear he may have been taken out of the area.  
Loved and missed by heartbroken Children.  
Reward on information leading to safe return.  
Call 07876 492041 with any information.

## religious notices

## christadelphian

**THE COMING OF JESUS** His future return, December 28, at 6pm, The Community Centre, High Street, Kingswinford. Or write to The Christadelphians, FREEPOST WV1681 Kingswinford DY6 9BR for free information pack or ring 01384 886544 for recorded message.

# 1 Family

## clothing - bridal

**WEDDING DRESS** Unused, strapless, size 10, bodice & train pearl/diamond, cost over £1,000 sell for £400 ono. 01902 324413.

## elderly & disabled

**World of Mobility**  
New Stairlifts from **£1,400 fitted**  
**Electric Rise & Recline Chairs from £495**  
SCOOTERS / ELECTRIC BEDS / MANUAL WHEELCHAIRS FROM £110  
We offer excellent customer service and aftercare on all our products.  
Showroom 108C Brettell Lane, Amblecote Stourbridge  
DY8 4BS or call **01384 378252**  
OPEN MON-SAT FREE PARKING AT REAR

**HOSPITAL BED** Hydraulic, good condition, £75 ono. 01902 846928 or 07971 049706.

## FreeAds

**IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY**  
For items up to £250.  
Online at [www.expressandstar.com/bookanad](http://www.expressandstar.com/bookanad)

**MOBILITY SCOOTER** Celebrity X Sport, lights/indicators 1st class condition, hardly used. Was £1,500 sell £500 ono. 01384 352520.  
**WREKIN STAIRLIFTS** reconditioned lifts from £795. New available. 01952 405397/07897 273617

## education & tuition

**CLOISTERS**  
STOURBRIDGE TUTORS Est 1992  
West Midlands Premier Agency  
Home individual tutoring  
LOCAL QUALIFIED TUTORS  
Protection of Children Act regulated and Police checked  
Primary, 11+, SATS, Secondary, GCSE, A, Deg. etc.  
0121 212 4986  
01902 671683  
[www.cloisters tutoring.co.uk](http://www.cloisters tutoring.co.uk)  
NEW TUTORS WELCOME

# 2 Leisure Time

## bikes

**BOYS BIKE**, Ammaco Wolf, 18 speed, 18ins wheels, exceptional condition, £45 ono. 01384 336923.

## caravans / motorhomes

**LET US SELL YOUR CARAVAN** for you and achieve the best possible price. Seven Valley Leisure, Stourbridge DY8 4HP. 01384 390183

## BARGAIN

**WASTE MASTER**  
And Aquaroll, £50 or will split.  
Morco compact room sealed water heater, 3 months old, hardly used. Was over £500 sell £325 ono.  
Russel Hobbs oven with 2 hot plates, £40.  
Superbrite mobile twin tub, used once, £60.  
Awning 935cms. Burgundy and Cream. £100 ono.  
01902 651063.

**4 BERTH CARAVAN**, Bailey 4 berth, with full awning and accessories. Clean and tidy, ready to go. Bargain £2,195 ono. 07806 894657.

## caravans wanted

**ALL CARAVANS WANTED**  
Any Age or Condition  
**\*CASH\***  
**\*WAITING\***  
Immediate collection  
Call Bob on 07787 833833

## jumble sales / fetes

**BRIC-A-BRAC FAIR**  
Sunday 14th December  
KINVER  
COMMUNITY CENTRE  
10.30am - 4pm  
Tel: 01952 588414

## music shop

**DYNATRON RADIOGRAM** and records, £110. 0902 755180.

**GROUP GEAR FOR SALE** Amps, speakers, combo's, stands, radio mike, tenor saxophone. Inquiries 01902 331599 or 07870 335774.

**RECORDS WANTED**  
50's, 60's, 70's, Rock, Punk, Rock / Roll, Jazz / 90's Indie.  
Collections bought.  
Music Memorabilia, Promo Posters, autographs, etc. etc.  
Top prices paid.  
Telephone 07966 252439.

## sports & leisure

## FreeAds

**IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY**  
For items up to £250.  
Online at [www.expressandstar.com/bookanad](http://www.expressandstar.com/bookanad)

## mind, body & soul

## clairvoyance

**CLAIRVOYANT JOHN STARKEY**. Private appointments, home visits and telephone readings. Call 01902 334224. [www.john-starkey.com](http://www.john-starkey.com).

## psychics

**TWISTED - WILLOWS PSYCHIC**  
Telephone reading  
0906 400 3555

# 3 Home & Services

## furniture

**CREAM LEATHER 3 SEATER SETTEE AND CHAIR**  
With recliners on all, 18 months old, cost £1800 from William and Son, Merry Hill, sell £350. 07909 840819.

**ITALIAN LEATHER 3 & 2 seater sofas + armchair**. All reclining. Dark brown. Very Good condition. Cost £2,100, sell £350. 07976 890090.

**KING SIZE electric bed**, lifts each side separately, can split into single, £250. 07506 660317.

**THREE PIECE suit**, burgundy chenille, large and comfy, 8 months old, excellent condition, £100. 01902 654214.

**TWO ARMCHAIRS** electric, reclining, tilt, straw chenille colour, 1 duet motor, 21 months old, cost £1,900, sell £500 the pair. 01384 211945.

**TWO THREE** three seater leather sofa, cream, good condition, £100. 07747 860170.

## BFC FURNITURE MELTDOWN SALE STARTS BOXING DAY

Open 26th Dec  
till 4th Jan  
10 till 6pm  
**HUGE SAVINGS**

Single mats ..... from £19  
Divan beds ..... Singles from £49 Doubles £69  
Ortho mats ..... Singles from £69 Doubles £99  
Memory foam mats ..... from £99  
Paux leather bed frames ..... from £199  
Doubles half price £99  
Ottoman bed frames ..... from £199  
Bunk frames ..... £99  
Metal fashion bed frames ..... from £49  
**Recliner sofas**  
**MANY HALF PRICE**  
Leather and fabric chairs ..... from £29  
Sofas ..... from £99  
Suites ..... from £249

**BFC FACTORY OUTLET**  
CONEYGRE ROAD IND EST,  
GREAT BRIDGE RD, TIPTON DY4 7RG.  
2 MINS FROM NEW  
TESCO & TOBY CARVERY  
**0121 557 6885**  
OPEN 7 DAYS - MON-SAT 10-6, SUN 10-4.

## household appliances

**COAL EFFECT** 3kw Franco Belge gas stove, excellent condition. £100. 01902 895382.

## items for sale

**HAVE YOU CHECKED** your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

## items wanted

**ALL GOLD 9ct £300 per ounce**  
**CASH PAID TODAY**  
**A GENUINE LADY BUYER**  
All Beswick • Doulton • Worcester  
Moorcroft • Lladró • Old coins  
• Watches • Costume Jewellery • Old toys  
• Clocks • Paintings • All silver  
• Chinese items • Old Ivory  
• Military items  
Pre '47 silver coins All war medals etc.  
**ANYTHING OLD & INTERESTING**  
01922 495066 or 07971 783206

**READERS ARE ADVISED** to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

**A ABSOLUTELY BEST** price given for single items or houses cleared. Antique, old, reproduction. Call: 01384 482155 or 07802 475693.

## A BEST CASH PRICE PAID

**ALL TOYS CARS/LORRIES WANTED**. All Mamod/Wilescos/Bowmans. All conditions. "Dinky" "Corgi" "Spot-on" "Britains and Airfix" "Mamod / Wilescos Steam Engines" "Star Wars Figures" "Scalextric Pre 1970's Tri-ang, cars or complete sets." "Old Enamel Advertising Signs" "Pre 1970 Annuals wanted, Beano, Dandy, etc" 01902 745598 / 07984 159571

## ALL ANTIQUES

collectables and memorabilia, anything old unusual cash paid today. 07930 949337 or 01384 484309.

**ALL BOXED / LOOSE RAILWAY COLLECTIONS WANTED**  
ANY GAUGE OR AGE  
Also live steam, also Diecast, Dinky, Corgi, Spot On. Guaranteed top cash prices paid!!  
0121 602 2569/07991 713547.  
[thetrainmaster67@hotmail.com](mailto:thetrainmaster67@hotmail.com)



## WANTED

**SLATES**  
Roof slates wanted, will strip off roof myself if required. Also wanted quarry tiles, flagstones and wood flooring, etc. 01495 722514.

## pc's, laptops & accessories

**LAPTOP COMPUTER**, widescreen, Windows, wireless WiFi, DVD, Office, good condition, can deliver and setup. £65. 07867 826843.

## t.v. / home entertainment

## sales

**FAULTY TVS, LAPTOPS & PS2'S** Bought for cash. Please telephone 07404 837309 for prices.

**PANASONIC** 50ins flat screen HD TV, with Freeview, black surround, complete with stand and manual, £220 ono. 01902 306412.

## service

**AERIAL & TV SPECIALISTS**  
Free Estimates on any TV Repairs, Plasma, LCD, 3D, LED, Projection. All areas covered 8 till late, 7 days. Digital aerials, Sky installation. Wall mounts & TV setups.  
**07850 330251**

## specialists at your service

## aerials

**AA DIGITAL AERIALS**  
1 aerial into 2 rooms £90  
1 aerial into 4 rooms £130  
**Work Guaranteed Same Day Service**  
01902 858191  
01384 429166  
01543 439095  
01922 716029  
07833 738857

## damp proof control

**DAMP, CONDENSATION, WOOD-WORM**, dry-rot control, 40 years exp. Free surveys. 01902 324727.

## double glazing

**UPVC BACK DOORS** from £299, front doors from £389 fitted. Windows/Fascias's, 01922 442720.

## electrical services

**STEVE JONES ELECTRICAL**  
Rewires/sockets/fuse boards etc. All domestic and commercial work. 07786 858977/01902 846167.

## fencing

**Chestnut Sheds and Fencing**  
Quality wooden buildings at great prices  
Sheds built to customer specifications, any size deluxe fence panels, fitting available. All manufactured at our premises. [www.chestnutshedsandfencing.co.uk](http://www.chestnutshedsandfencing.co.uk)  
**01384 913422**

## gardening services

**For all your Patio's, Turfing, Decking, treework and Root grinding...**

**Prestwood FENCING & LANDSCAPING**  
Call us on: 01384 273586 or 07947 879403 or visit [www.prestwoodfencing.co.uk](http://www.prestwoodfencing.co.uk) for more details

## JEZ'S GARDEN SERVICES

Lawns cut, Borders, Garden clearances  
Trees lopped and shaped  
Fencing, Slabbing...  
Please call: 01384 403353 or 07929 600636

## house clearances

**A ABSOLUTE BEST** cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Also removals undertaken. 07852 172641 / 07710 360327

## lock services

**SECURE LOCKS** Lock replacement doors/windows BS3621 insurance approved Closures/Fire doors, panic bars 07840467642 / 0793888910

## logs

**HARDWOOD / SOFTWARE SEASONED LOGS FOR SALE**  
Loads/Bulk Bags from £60. Delivery available  
01902 882115 / 07768 392009  
[www.sandfieldstreeservices.co.uk](http://www.sandfieldstreeservices.co.uk)

## LUG A LOG

Quality logs supplied to your door. Free delivery. 01384 306070 / 07572 739653

## painters / decorators

**LOVE 2 WALLPAPER**  
Reliable & Friendly, Professional Female Painter and Decorator  
Wallpaper is my speciality, competitive prices. For the Perfect Finish with minimum hassle. Plastering & Coving Work Undertaken  
01384 287577 or 07812 484194

## plastering

**P.D.P. PLASTERING & TILING**  
All aspects of plastering & Tiling, reliable, professional service  
Call Pete: 07505662778  
[www.pdpplastering.com](http://www.pdpplastering.com)

## plumbing & heating

**D S MARSH PLUMBING**  
All aspects of plumbing work undertaken. Heating, Gaswork.  
Call Steve: 07796 270745 or Dan: 07807 818730

**Midland Energy Solutions**  
All plumbing, heating and gas work.  
Call Luke on 01902 488770 07584 062483

## removals

**A & M CHEAP REMOVALS**  
Local Careful Firm  
Full or Part loads  
Call Don: 0800 587 0377 or 07749 941319

## A1 KINGSWINFORD REMOVALS & HOUSE CLEARANCES

Single items, Full houses, Offices etc  
Recession rates, FREE QUOTES  
We take the stress away  
40 years experience  
07966 281957

**A MAN WITH A VAN** Single items, flat/house removals/clearances, local/nationwide. Call Steve 0121 222 2299 or 07815 045724.  
**ALAN, RAINBOW COURIERS**  
Business/Domestic, 07884 353732  
CALL DEAN! Business/Domestic, Deliveries/Relocation/full house 1 item, 07429 453209 / 01902 830670 01384 940265 / 01922 253460.  
**CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN.**  
Removals, clearances. Items large or small. Call: 01902 741546 or 07899 635852.



01902 317878 • www.expressandstar.com/classifiedads

### roofing

**MG ROOFING** Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 239899 / 07560 465449.

**PREMIER ROOFING** New Roofs, Repairs, Fascias & Gutters. Call: 0121 532 7601 or 07875 387445.

### skip hire

**BIG JOHN MOVES RUBBISH!** No Skips, we load, fast friendly service, 25 Lister Rd, Dudley DY2 8JF, Est 35 years, 01384 232359.

### woodburners and stoves

**WOODBURNING / MULTIFUEL** Stoves, Flues, Installation. Free surveys. Stourbridge 01384 390183. severnvalleystoves.com

## 4

### Pets & Animals

### equestrian corner

**ALL READERS** are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

**BAY COB**, Good to Handle. Bay at 575. Telephone 07761 379384.

**BLACK AND WHITE** Gelding Cob, broken to ride, Ideal for Family. 075 07761 379384.

**ROUND BALE** Hay, £25 per bale, can deliver. Open Christmas. 01902 840603 or 07836 647754.

### guns & dogs

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS** Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

### pets corner

**GREYHOUNDS MAKE WONDERFUL PETS** All neutered, inoculated and chipped. Call Greyhound Trust 01922 412212 or www.rgtwolverhampton.co.uk

**NOTICE TO READERS** Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.
2. Do not attempt to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

**BLACK LABRADOR** pups, KC reg, vet checked, parents can be seen, raised with kids/dogs. £350. 01785 712056/07532 177496.

**BRAND NEW** dog kennel, 4ft x 3ft x 4ft high, £70. Can deliver. 01384 78568 / 07572 886519.

**PEDIGREE CHIHUAHUA** Black Boy Puppy. Ready now. Telephone 07952 926466.

**SPROCKER PUPPIES** ten weeks, liver and white, black and white and black, strong pups. £280 each. 01299 861586 or 07989 280633.

**STAFFORDSHIRE BULL** Terrier pups, 3 boys, 3 girls, ready, 9wks old. 07581 045267. 07805 448294.

**YORKSHIRE TERRIER** puppies, home reared, full pedigree, vet checked, deposit secure. 07581 184498.

### vets

## Express & Star

### THIS SPACE COULD BE PROMOTING YOUR BUSINESS

Every day our customers get a great response from Classified Advertising.

So could you by calling our friendly experienced Sales Advisors on 01902 319191.

## 5

### Business & Farming

### business opportunities

**READERS** are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

### plant, machinery & tools

**HYUNDAI EXCAVATORS** Excellent Diggers, we beat any price. 07874 737244.

### business directory

### accountants

**ACCOUNTANCY** and Taxation services for Small Businesses. Fixed fees. Call 01902 343200.

**ACCOUNTS, BOOK KEEPING, PAYROLL, VAT** New start-ups welcome. Phone Clover on: 01384 459714 or 07715 510749.

## 6

### Property

### bungalows

**TWO BUNGALOWS** SEMI DETACHED KIDDERMINSTER Both two bedroom. In need of modernisation. Substantial plot of land. Four car workshop at rear. Sold as one unit. £265,000. Telephone 01562 822266 (after 7pm).

### properties wanted

**LOCAL INVESTOR** can pay 10% more than all these guys. Call Alex 07729 297901

### accommodation to let

**NOTICE TO READERS** It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

**BRIERLY HILL**, 2-bed house, newly decorated, suit working or retired, £500pcm. 07585 429131.

**DUDDLEY, OLDBURY/Blackheath** 1/2 bed flats, deposit / rent neg. 0121 5500064 or 07870 880955.

**ROOM TO LET**, Furnished, Pendeford area. No rent. For details call: 07467 080989

**SMART ROOMS** in shared house in Netherton. Single £85pw. Double £95pw inc bills. No DSS. 01384 401747 / 07940 116130.

**THREE BEDROOM** house to let, Bradmore area, large garden, £550 pcm. Call lqbal 07779 471626.

**TOILET ONE** bed flat, unfurnished, double glazing, DSS ok. Call or text 07754 076795.

### houses for sale

**43 ADDISON ROAD** Brierley Hill, 3 bed semi detached house, off road parking. £59,950. Call G & T Properties on 01384 261997.

### overseas property

**NOTICE TO READERS** Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

## 7

### Jobs

### courses

**MINI COOPER S**, 06, FSH, Chili pack, Bluetooth, full leather seats, starlight blue. Must be seen. £4,650. o.n.o. 01691 610334

**NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA**, 2007, 44,000 miles, red, MoT June 2015. Immaculate condition. £2,950 ono. 07967 722178.

**PEUGEOT 107**, 2010, £20 Tax, 60 mpg, spotties throughout, low tax. This car is like new. 1st to see will buy. £3,500. 07887 691166

**PEUGEOT 308** 1.6 HDI SE SW, 2010, black, 53,000 miles, FSH, very clean car, 2 owners from new, £6,150 ono 07503 000940.

### TOP GEAR

**Driver Training**

- LGV / PCV Training
- 1-1 Gold Standard tuition
- Free Assessments
- CPC Courses
- Driver Medicals
- Caravan & Horse Box Tuition available

0121 585 0834  
www.topgear-lgv.com

### SAFE DRIVING FOR LIFE

**"QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS"**

**FREE ASSESSMENTS • FREE THEORY TEST TRAINING**

HGV, PCV, ALL LICENCE CATEGORIES. DRIVER CPC COURSES & TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT COURSES

CALL FOR A BROCHURE OR POP IN AND SEE US

**01902 312800**  
www.hgvdrivertraining.co.uk

**BIRMINGHAM** 21-22 FEBRUARY

**COVENTRY** 18-19 MARCH

**TAMWORTH** 8-9 APRIL

### Learn how to take blood

### TRAIN AS A PHLEBOTOMIST

### Introduction to Phlebotomy

• TWO DAY ACCREDITED COURSES

• NATIONALLY RECOGNISED

Book online or more info: **www.geopace.com**

No previous experience or qualifications required

## 8

### Motoring

### cars over £1500

**AUDI A4** Cabriolet, 2002, 3.0 litre, silver, 78,000 miles, MoT, FSH, full leather, Bose stereo, £4,250 ono. 07809 408541.

**CITROEN C2** 55 reg, silver, MoT October 15, lady owner, 52,000 miles, good condition, £1,595. 07938 678043.

**FORD CMAX** 1.6 5-dr, blue, 1 owner from new, 55,000 miles, 12 months MoT, very good condition, £2,400 ono. 01902 713421. 07904 811891

**FORD FIESTA** 1.2, 57 reg, low mileage, excellent condition, £1,995. 07939 643378.

**FORD FIESTA 1.4 TDCI** STYLE 2009, 67,000 miles, metallic blue, low insurance group/fax, 12 months MoT, fsh, air con, CD aux input, excellent condition. £4,650 ono. 07971 532527.

**FORD FOCUS GHIA** 2006, 1.6 TDCI, black, 138,000, service history, cruise control, MoT, £1,695 ono. 01922 514176.

**FORD KA** 2010, blue, 1.2, 9 months MoT, 44k miles, low tax/insurance, CD, good condition, 2 lady owners. £4,250 ono. 07917 696250.

**FORD MONDEO ESTATE 2.0 GHIA** TDCI, 04, silver, new MoT, 1/2 leather, MoT June 2015, black, ideal first car, good condition £1,099. 07967 732028.

**HONDA CIVIC** 1.4, 5-dr, 59 reg, 18,000 miles, MoT, FSH, £7,000 ono. 01902 863930.

**HYUNDAI I10** 59 reg, 12 months MoT, high spec, excellent condition, ideal super mini, excellent MPG, very low tax bracket. £3,800 ono. 07590 258562.

**MINI COOPER S**, 06, FSH, Chili pack, Bluetooth, full leather seats, starlight blue. Must be seen. £4,650. o.n.o. 01691 610334

**NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA**, 2007, 44,000 miles, red, MoT June 2015. Immaculate condition. £2,950 ono. 07967 722178.

**PEUGEOT 107**, 2010, £20 Tax, 60 mpg, spotties throughout, low tax. This car is like new. 1st to see will buy. £3,500. 07887 691166

**PEUGEOT 308** 1.6 HDI SE SW, 2010, black, 53,000 miles, FSH, very clean car, 2 owners from new, £6,150 ono 07503 000940.

**PORSCHE BOXSTER** Low mileage. Super car at super price. Call for more details. Reduced to £9,450. 07745 025823.

### commercial vehicles

**PEUGEOT EXPRESSION** 52 plate, 1.2, 16V, low mileage, 12 months MoT, £2800 ono. 07835 849841.

**RENAULT CLIO** 1.2, 52 reg, MoT July 2015, 94,000 miles, good all round condition. £595. 07899 419384.

**RENAULT CLIO** 1.4, 2000, FSH, full MoT, all electric, 2 dr, PAS, £475 ono. 01384 440258.

**RENAULT CLIO EXPRESSION** 52 plate, 1.2, 16V, low mileage, 12 months MoT, £2800 ono. 07835 849841.

**RENAULT MEGANE** 98 reg, 1.4cc, 9 months MoT, low mileage, good condition, new tyres, £3500 ono. 01902 597423 or 07814 295791.

**VAUXHALL CORSA** 1.2 3-dr, red, 1993, good condition, full MoT, 42,000 miles. £395. 01902 566552.

**PEUGEOT EXPERT** 2ltr, HDI, 54, MoT July 15, tow bar, bulk head, ply lined, part racking. Good condition. £1,700 ono. 07801 089151.

### driving tuition

**Homer's** Mini, Clio, Corsa, Fiesta, Punto, 207, KA, Fiat 500, Yaris.

10 Hours £89 Five Hours £501 24 hrs £201 All Areas COVENTRY

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**RENAULT CLIO** Extreme, 2010, full MoT, 28,500 miles, £3,200 ono. 01902 635871 or 07711 831004.

**TOYOTA AYGO BLUE**, 1.0, 2009, 59 plate, low mileage, (31,000), aircon, parking sensors, bluetooth, alloys, MoT June 2015 £4,250 ono. Telephone: 01902 338845 or 07591 432154

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**FORD FOCUS**, 5 plate, 79,000 miles, silver, air con, alloy wheels, 12 months MoT, central locking, CD, £1,000 ono. 01902 892182.

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**PEUGEOT 206** 1.6, 5dr, 2002, silver, low mileage, excellent condition, s/h, a/c, CD, alarm, MoT, £350. 01902 652456 or 07757 885882.

**PEUGEOT 206** 2004, grey colour, 5dr, MoT July 2015, £1,000 miles, very good condition, AC, EW, PAS, £1,050. 07838 897643.

**PEUGEOT 206** diesel, 2001, very nice condition, owner from new, FSH, MoT, £795 ono. 07867 685569.

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**PEUGEOT EXPERT** 2ltr, HDI, 54, MoT July 15, tow bar, bulk head, ply lined, part racking. Good condition. £1,700 ono. 07801 089151.

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## 9

### Local Information

### public & legal notices

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**JAN** slim curvy professional warm, affectionate, looking to fill full time vacancy with similar male who loves cuddles/kisses and bikes for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412167

**ATTRACTIVE** slim brunette, 47, N/S, seeks tall, slim male for a cut above the average relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412725

**MELANIE**, 38, slim, blond and bored. Call if you want no strings fun. Text Only 4550198

**KAREN** pretty blonde, short in stature, big personality, keeps fit, loves dogs, seeking honest, caring male who can make me laugh. Nothing too serious just fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412377

**JENNI**, 52 bored housewife wants no strings fun with younger chap. Text Only 4550197

**JEAN** petite female who enjoys golf, days out, cosy evenings in, holidays, W/LTM older male in his 50's with a good personality and big heart. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412359

**JULIE** really fun loving slim pretty female 38 looking for nice guy to go out with, get to know and hopefully enjoy a relationship with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411517

**GWENDOLINE** honest, trustworthy, seeks caring gent who enjoys cinema, theatre, holidays and nights out for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412293

**SLIM** active lady, 60's, N/S, seeks honest, kind gent, 57-62 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407693

**RITA** attractive blonde with a very kind heart seeks special man to share my life with. Please get in touch if like me you are fed up with always being the single friend. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412987

**SOPHIA** young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult m, any area, all calls answered. Tel No: 0905 002 1883 Box No: 413399

**JAN** 58fins slim pretty lady in great shape, open-minded, laidback, GSOH, OHAC, many interests, W/LTM someone for cuddling up with and to share good and bad times. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412931

**LUCY**, 32yrs, blonde lady seeks naughty boys of any age for no strings for his mojo! No strings, go on call my. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413443

**ANN** slim attractive N/S lady who is easy to get along with, looking for romantic interesting man for new adventures together, hopefully ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412911

**ADVENTUROUS** sexy lady, 38yrs, married but seeks no strings fun with discreet man, any age. I'm tall, slim and dominant. Aca. Tel No: 0905 002 1937 Box No: 415301

**JULIE** loving, caring, honest, seeks real gent to share conversation and have a great time, friendship/relationship, who knows? Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412777

**LUCY**, broadminded 18yrs seeks discreet fun with men any age. Aca. Tel No: 0905 002 1941 Box No: 365051

**SALLY** stunning lady looking for dinner dates, partying and generally having a good time with generous man looking for his mojo! No strings, go on call my. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412599

**SEXY** brunette, mid 20's busty, adventurous broad minded seeks no strings fun. Tel No: 0905 002 1949 Box No: 361739

**DEBS** petite attractive adult haired, good listener, romantic, enjoys socialising, seeks nights in with Mr Right, seeking similar caring N/S single dad. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412387

**SALLY**, 38yrs large cuddly lady seeks slim men for discreet meetings. Text Only 4550193

**VICKY** 37yr professional, mum to one, sensual and very attractive, looking for a real man, tall, sincere and passionate to enjoy each other's company. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411695

**LUCY** beautiful busty bubbly blonde 32yrs, seeking naughty boy to enjoy the fun side of life with, age, status and looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411691

**LINDA** single and living alone, attractive, young looking, bubbly, W/LTM similar young at heart companion to be close with, enjoy chats and romantic dates. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410119

**WIDOW** 68, 5ft 5ins, medium build, attractive, likes walks, reading, holidays, seeks sincere, N/S male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411745

**JEAN** young at heart lady, active, 70 plus, N/S, GSOH, likes walks, gardening, outings, W/LTM sincere, caring male, 69-74 for companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411711

**TINA** sexy black female looking for healthy distractions with fun adult companion, interested? You won't be disappointed, give me a call. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411519

**LYNNE** young looking attractive Indian female with GSOH and down to earth attitude, looking for likeminded male for date nights, hopefully more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411219

**EMMIE** 50, attractive brunette, 5ft 3ins, OHAC, likes country walks, music, reading, seeks genuine, friendly, professional male with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411281

**RETIRED** happy, caring, attractive female, likes gardening, travel, animals, comedy, seeks tall, funny, kind chap, Shropshire. 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411459

**RITA** naughty 40's petite pretty female looking for that special man in my life, any age, to get to know and see what happens, you only live once remember! 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410959

**SUE** 34, likes most things in life, even football! looking for Mr Wonderful though I would give this a try. Come on what do we have to loose, call me. 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410765

**CAROL** slim attractive blonde, sporty, easy going, broadminded looking for likeminded male with plenty of va va room, 35-45. 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409717

**KAREN** 32 a hardworking petite blonde, enjoys nights out, music, etc, W/LTM for more than just friendship with similar chilled, fun, easy going guy. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410461

**DIANE** voluptuous curvy and all woman, loves dancing, walking, cosy nights in, W/LTM nice man for friendship, hopefully leading to something more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412321

**SARA** bored blonde looking for single gents for fun, chats and meals, looking forward to hearing from you, don't be shy. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412055

**EMMA** petite young looking 31yr old attractive single brunette, loves walking, talking, music, seeks honest romantic 30-40yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412037

**ANNABELL**, 29 slim sophisticated well travelled interesting sensual fit brunette with lots to offer seeks older male to appreciate and treat me well. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412177

**KAREN** slim, tall, attractive 36yr old normal female who likes shopping, socialising, nights in/out seeking thoughtful genuine male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412041

**KIM** 25yrs feminine, pretty, big blue eyes, GSOH, varied interests, like romantic beach walks, cosy nights in, seeking honest loving man for ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411777

**CAROL** young 47, caring, lovely, likes music, concerts, cinema, theatre, seeks male with similar interests for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

**PROFESSIONAL** black lady, likes cooking, music, countryside, seeking honest, reliable man for possibly longer for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411763

**PAULINE** attractive divorced female with 10yrs, employed with my own home, likes nights in/out, lots of tic to give to the right person, call me for a chat, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411039

**JEN** attractive sensual petite blonde with OHAC seeks confident fit professional male to enjoy and share good times, if that's you pls get in touch. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410949

**ARE** you dark or bald, with hairy chest, well built, educated, verbal, articulate don or sub, broadminded and ready to be put in your place? Curious to find out more? call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410637

**29YR** old black beautiful busty tall loving very sensual lady, likes football, making friends, seeking genuine white male for enjoyable loving relationship, pls no time wasters. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410577

**SUSAN** 64, lively, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411529

**SUE** 38, attractive broadminded attentive, enjoys meals in/out etc, not necessarily looking for Mr Right as Mr Wrong or even Mr Right now could be fun! Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411049

**ANGIE** attractive slim blonde just looking for a lovely spontaneous guy who like me just wants good company and a nice relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410641

**KATHERINE** 35yr old outgoing single female looking to enjoy dates with similar male also looking for fun times in or out. Age, looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410565

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**TAYLOR** 21 black beautiful classy intelligent, loves to have lots of fun and enjoy life to the full, seeking mature guy to make me happy. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409911

**WENDY** 50, blue eyes, 5ft 7ins, likes music, meals out, seeks white male, 45-55 with similar interests and GSOH for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410499

**73YR** old Hereford lady, GSOH, young at heart, many interests, seeks caring, genuine gent of similar age for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410331

**NICKY** bubbly curvy fun blonde, varied interests, enjoys meals out, holidays, seeking N/S male with GSOH for possible ltr. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410479

**LIZ** 5ft 7ins, attractive, outgoing, likes walks, dogs, cooking, seeks male for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410395

**BLACK** female, 45, seeking older gent, 60 plus who knows how to look after a lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407787

**YOUNG** early 40's female, GSOH, kind, caring, considerate, seeks male for friendship, possible romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410847

**CAROL** 38 attractive romantic not looking for fairy tales just happy endings, seeking lovely male to put the sparkle back into my life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410721

**CLAIRE** voluptuous tall feminine attractive lady who loves good company, fine wine/food, travel, W/LTM tall professional for romance dates and hopeful ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410627

**LORRAINE** 5ft 9ins, 5ft, nurse, looking for someone to look after me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410543

**MICHELLE** 37, looking for laughter fun and romance with the right guy, if you could be him and have nothing to loose call me for a chat. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410415

**ELAINE** attractive 39yr old blonde single mum seeking respectful maled/ad with similar interests for adult friendship, hopefully leading to love, looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410117

**DONNA** 27yrs blue eyed blonde with cute dimpled smile, loves socialising but looking for that special someone with GSOH to cuddle up with, enjoy fun/good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409733

**MARGARET** OHAC, professional, sincere, adventurous, loving, kind, solvent lady who enjoys most things W/LTM caring male with similar refined tastes. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407925

**Hi I'm Pam**, cuddly, attractive, self-sufficient, employed, looking for single young looking sincere male for hopeful ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407933

**ZOE** 25 long haired sensual female, very naughty, broadminded and open, looking for similar fun guy for uncomplicated adult meets. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409719

**JANE** attractive, feminine open-minded mature female genuinely looking for adult fun. No time wasters please. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409715

**JILL** 50, attractive, 5ft, blonde, own home, no ties, likes films, reading, travel, music, good social circle, seeking that someone special. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410105

**ATTRACTIVE** professional lady, 56, enjoys country walks, meals out, seeks professional gent with GSOH to enjoy the good things in life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409895

**MARK** tall widower, 76, looking for female of similar age who enjoys meals out, holidays, walks and holidays. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412295

**ROY** mid 60's, N/S, car driver, young outlook, seeks lady for friendship, West Bromwich area. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412083

**PAUL** 62, seeking attractive Wolverhampton lady for discreet daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410799

**TALL** slim gent, 60, seeks slim, attractive lady for no strings relationship. Discretion assured. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412277

**IAN** 65, romantic, likes to wine/dine, days out, seeking younger female for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412087

**MARK** fun loving, easy going, fair hair blue eyes, athletic, tanned, looking for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411989

**FIT** bubbly male, athletic, blue eyes, short fair hair, easy going, loving, GSOH, seeking female for no strings fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411901

**TALL** attractive Shrewsbury male, 54, seeks attractive female for fun and excitement in the daytime. Discretion assured. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411823

**TIGER** Woods lookalike, seeking pretty BBW for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411801

**MALE** 74, fit, N/S, OHAC, seeks slim lady of similar age for days out, holidays and walks. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411673

**TALL** mature male, seeks younger, attractive mixed race lady for spoiling and pampering. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411505

**PHIL** genuine male, 57, OHAC, looking for female, any race, status and age for no strings discreet fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411461

**MALE** seeking female companion for outings, friendship and holidays. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412705

**STEPHEN** 58, good looking, likes art, travel, seeking female, 50 plus for companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412633

**MALCOLM** 61, smoker, great personality, likes coach holidays, drives, pubs, meals out, nights out, 60's music, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412523

**TONY** 52, dark hair, white male, 6ft, confident, GSOH, seeks black female. Genuine ad. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412481

**TALL** 42yr old sincere male, caring, honest, loving, seeking female, 30-40 for fun, friendship and good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412483

**COUNTRY** loving businessman, honest, medium build, N/S, OHAC, seeks professional, genuine, caring, honest, N/S female for long term relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412445

**JOHN**, 42yrs professional genuine gent seeks caring lady to treat as a princess. Text Only 4550195



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**NORTH** Shropshire male, 67, N/S, solvent, GSOH, likes walks, travel, music, holidays, countryside, seeks N/S lady for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412867

**MAURICE** gentleman, 59, gentle, kind, caring, loving, generous, seeks lady with GSOH and similar personality, slim-medium build. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412859

**TONY** young looking 50, 5ft 8ins, slim, seeks slim rock chick, trendy for dates and LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413049

**KEVIN** 53, looking for a friend/partner and a lover. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412869

**68YR** old lady, likes gardening, meals out, days out, looking for sincere gent to share time with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408429

**CHRIS** blue eyed blonde single female, lots of interests, loves travel, beach, nights in/out, looking for mature sincere gent for possible ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407616

**ATTRACTIVE** female, young 49, 5ft 7ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, genuine, loyal, easygoing, GSOH, seeks tall, handsome male, 40-50 for fun times, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406135

**LITTLE** bit nice and definitely a little bit naughty! Imaginative curvy blonde seeks male for kisses and cuddles. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 365428

**29YR** old female, widowed, small, slim, attractive, kind, outgoing, likes meals out, dancing, holidays, nights in, seeking professional gent. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394106

**CAROL** 36, looking for older experienced gent 50-70yrs for fun times only, discretion assured and expected. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401853

**TAYLOR** attractive very busty curvy black female looking for fun times with open-minded male who is also looking for fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408311

**BETHANY** 25yr old blonde, slim size 10 with great personality, looking for nice guy to share my life with, single dad welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408253

**KIRSTY** blonde blue eyed size 12 nurse, enjoys cosy nights, driving, holidays, socialising, W/LTM broadminded male for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409256

**KATH** blonde independent female, employed with OHAC looking for fun and laughter with likeminded nice easy going male, any age. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407955

**TRACY** slim dark haired beauty, petite, hardworking career, enjoys dancing, nights out, W/LTM loving male who can make me laugh for an adult relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409419

**SHARON** very attractive British black lady, easy size, looking for white male to fall in love with, Beautiful people can be lonely too. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409263

**MID** naughty forties female looking fun, thrills and discreet meets, give me a call, you won't be disappointed. Any age with own accommodation. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409109

## Men seeking women

**REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.**

**JOHN** 5ft 10ins, slim, GSOH, various interests, seeks female for friendship/relationship, 35-52. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413107

**RETIRED** male, seeking no strings adult fun and frolics, discretion assured, age/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413067

**JEFF** young 62, N/S, tall, fit, energetic, seeking new female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413053

**JAMES**, hard working single dad, late 30's seeks single mum for family days out. Text Only 4550196



**PAUL** 62, seeks attractive Wolverhampton lady for discreet daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411099

**TRUSTWORTHY** fit, active, caring, easy going male, N/S, 68, GSOH, seeks genuine lady, 59-72 for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411083

**TOM** 31, seeking female for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411165

**ADVENTUROUS** 32yr old slim, dark haired, creative, likes music, cycling and photography, seeks likeminded female to share fun and happiness with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 352753

**60YR** old male, 5ft 11ins, W/LTM female, 40-60 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411097

**STEVE** 63, tall, fit, energetic, N/S, seeks lady,



# Hackett's side build on their success

**Stourbridge 3 King's Lynn Town 0**

IT was never quite as one-sided as the scoreline suggests but goals from Will Richards, George Bowerman and Josh Morgan-Parker were just what Stourbridge needed to build on the previous win over leaders Skelmersdale.

Hackett's men could not have wished for a better start as defender Richards put Stourbridge in the driving seat after just seven minutes by heading home Drew Canavan's corner at the near post off the body of Linnets goalkeeper Alex Street.

The Glassboys doubled the lead with a splendid goal in first-half injury time.

Morgan-Parker played a neat ball in for Bowerman and he evaded full-back Jordan Yong before calmly converting a low shot beyond Street.

Good work from lively Morgan-Parker made it a resounding 3-0 after 63 minutes when he took the ball away from a challenge with visiting central defender Henry Eze.

Morgan-Parker then neatly lobbed the ball over goalkeeper Street into an empty net to set up what would turn out to be the final score of the game.

**Lions sides have run of successes**

THE Lions 2nds and 3rds were victorious against their Kidderminster counterparts making it a very successful day at Stourton Park.

The Lions 2nds (Greyhounds) enjoyed a comprehensive 31-15 victory also at Marpool Lane, with two tries each for birthday boy back row Josh Cresswell and winger Arron Clifford plus one for fullback James Metaxus with three conversions for scrum half Oliver Shergold.

The Lions 3rds (Grasshoppers) shaded a titanic battle 22-17, with tries from prop Steven Williams, wing Neil 'Grrr' Roper, lock Jonathan Ming and hooker Dave Surch plus a conversion from Simon Blackadder.

# Lions keep the pride going with win

**Kidderminster 15 Lions 29**

FOLLOWING on from a great performance against Camp Hill a Lions squad showing half a dozen changes arrived at Marpool Lane in good heart.

Arron Boffey returned on the right wing and James Dallison made his Lions debut on the left. The first 15 mins were spent probing the Kidderminster defence around the home 22.

An early move saw centre Tom Dews charge through the Kiddy centres only to drop the pass from Harry Wainwright with the try line beckoning.

**Rugby**

After this the home outfit began to dominate, with several drives using their big back row and No. 8 and through moving the ball quickly to their wingers.

Around halfway through the half they managed to get their right winger clear for a good try in the corner and the alarm bells started ringing for the Lions.

Despite having most of the play and a faster, more mobile back row, they were being beaten to the breakdown far too often

for comfort. The game was nip and tuck up to 30 mins when a mistake in defence let the home side press for the line, only for a last ditch scramble forcing a five metre scrum.

Although the Lions wheeled the set-piece the scrum continued and the resulting drive ended in a second Kiddie try.

Within two minutes a penalty allowed the visitors a lineup in the home 22 and, with good momentum the forwards drove the home pack over the line for a typical try for captain Stuart Doolittle.

The half ended with the Lions reducing

the arrears to two points with a penalty goal from fly half Sam Wilson.

Gradually the Lions took control, realising that there were opportunities through the home midfield.

Hooker Fred Brooks scored, converted by scrum half Ben Trinham.

The Lions forced a turnover from which player coach Sam Robinsondived over. Another conversion by Trinham left the Lions 22-10 up. Back came the hosts with a try in the right corner.

With 10 minutes to go Wainwright put up the final score.

# Matt's late goal decider for Lye

**AFC Wulfrunians 0 Lye Town 1**

MATT Johnson grabbed the late winner as Lye edged out AFC Wulfrunians to move into the top four of the Midland Premier League.

A battling performance from Wulfs was not enough as Johnson struck the only goal five minutes from time in a game where neither side had many chances.

Lye had the first opportunity after 11 minutes. Chris Russell's shot flew across the face of goal but Ricky Anslow poked a miscued effort straight to Wulfs' keeper Danny Tipton, with the goal gaping.

Some good work from Jordan Perks could have seen Wulfs go ahead with their first chance. He won the ball high up the pitch and beat two players before laying off to Jake Sedgemore, whose shot was just wide.

Spray had a great chance as he got a free-kick on the edge of the area.

With just five minutes left, Lye took the lead. Another free-kick from Spray caused Tipton more trouble as his powerful effort bounced just before the 'keeper. Tipton couldn't keep hold of it, and Johnson was the first to react as he fired in.

# Stour digs deep to take see-saw game

**Stourbridge 28 Chester 23**

**TRAILING by seven points on the hour mark, Stour dug deep to pull off a last-gasp win.**

A tapped penalty produced a wonderful display of handling and ball retention that was finished off with a try in the corner for prop Mark George. Though dominant in the scrum, Stour's lineout and breakdown play came under pressure.

Chester forced several turnovers which resulted in a flowing, evenly matched game in which the score was frequently level and changed hands several times.

Their scrum conceded an early penalty, Stour's forwards launching a set of drives that pulled in the defenders, the ball was moved right through the hands of Gareth Bown and Jon Higgins to put Tom Jarvis clear in the corner.

Chester drew full advantage from a missed tackle as the Stour defences were forced to scramble back, loose head Gavin Woods driven over from short range.

The hosts' lead was restored by a successful penalty by Higgins after quick hands by captain Nigel Mukaratii had put Eji Uzoigwe through a gap.

But Chester struck straight back, outside-half Will Goodwin threading a neat chip kick over the advancing defenders.

The bounce and low sun deceived Higgins, the chasers gathered the ball which was worked to right wing Craig Ross for the simplest of run-in's.

Robbie Hurrell was held up just short of the line as



Tom Jarvis scores for Stourbridge who went on to defeat Chester in the game at home

# Ideye 'my best is yet to come'

ALBION record signing Brown Ideye insists his best is yet to come after admitting he has taken time to adapt to life at The Hawthorns.

Ideye made just his third Premier League start recently and, despite struggling personally, the £10m man helped the Baggies to a 1-0 derby win against Villa.

Now the Nigeria international believes he is edging closer to his best.

"I was happy that I was in the first XI," said Ideye. "I was always hungry to start for West Brom and I always give my best."

"Sometimes it's difficult but I have to keep on pushing and working hard for the team. I am getting closer to my best."

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Team ends on top of  
see-saw game  
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## Mason, Dixon line is drawn

**Hereford Lads 2 Team Dudley 1**

TEAM Dudley were edged out 2-1 by Hereford Lads Club in West Midlands Division One after playing with 10 men for more than an hour.

Ryan Spittle put the visitors in front on 19 minutes but lost Jahmal Patterson to a red card after a strong challenge nine minutes later.

Danny Mason headed an equaliser on 40 minutes and Steve Dixon scored Hereford's winner midway through the second half.

Hereford were able to enjoy greater possession of the ball and despite admirable defending Hereford brought the game equal on 40 minutes when a fine cross was met by the head of Mason.

Hereford were out the traps early in the second half and it took a Liam Jones save with his legs to keep parity.

Despite being a man down TD were defending resolutely but were undone when a clever inside pass saw Captain Steve Dixon beat the advancing Jones to give Hereford the lead on 66 minutes.

TD provided a threat and on 73 minutes from a keeper miss clearance saw the ball eventually fall to safety.

## Villa blow at Ashley injury

ASTON Villa midfielder Ashley Westwood has been ruled out for up to four weeks with medial ligament damage, the Barclays Premier League club have announced.

The 24-year-old carried off on a stretcher during the 2-1 win over Leicester following a strong tackle by Jamie Vardy.

Villa were confident the injury was not as bad as first feared but the former Crew player will still miss up to five games.

Westwood has been a key man for Villa manager Paul Lambert since signing from The Railwaymen in 2012 and set up Ciaran Clark's equaliser against the Foxes.

He adds to a lengthy injury list and joins defenders Nathan Baker (knee) and Ron Vlaar and Philippe Senderos (both calf) on the sidelines while striker Libor Kozak has a broken leg.

## Geldart strikes twice to trouble Tipton

**Tipton Town 2 Heath Hayes 3**

CHRIS Geldart netted twice as Heath Hayes boosted their survival hopes with a 3-2 win at fellow strugglers Tipton Town.

Hosts Tipton were left trailing in the visitors' wake in a keenly-contested local derby as defeat left them at the foot of the Midland Premier League. Heath Hayes now have a six-point gap over the bottom two.

Tipton, however, had struck first after just four minutes when a flag-kick from the right was powerfully headed home by central defender Paul Henley.

The visitors, undeterred, threatened

**Football**

quickly with Danny Scragg spearing a firm header just over and it was 1-1 after eight minutes.

A searching cross from the right undid the home defence and Geldart equalised from close in.

Both sides tried to take charge as the action flowed end to end, Kyle Sheppard firing narrowly off target for Tipton.

Luke Wright was setting a fine example to his Heath Hayes colleagues with some

powerful play that was helping to turn the tide in his side's favour and they took the lead in the 17th minute.

Joe Pickering cottoned on to a precision pass, enabling him to draw home keeper, Matt Martin, off his goal-line before accurately driving the ball past him.

Tipton rallied briefly, Sean Pugh freeing Ben Hadley but his shot passed a foot or so wide as the home club desperately sought to regain the initiative.

Most of the forward play was now being dictated by the visitors. Scragg was again to the fore but, with a goal seemingly a fore-

mality, he drove wildly over the top in the 26th minute.

Soon after the start of the second half, Pickering took advantage of some wayward play in the home defence but, with a third goal seeming a certainty for the now-dominant visitors, he fired just over.

In the 62nd minute Geldart netted his second, to put the visitors 3-1 in front and, in control of the game.

With injury time being played Ben Hadley scrambled a goal back for Tipton from close-range through a packed goalmouth but the visitors clung on to the points.

# RUSHALL ECLIPSE THE GLASSBOYS

**Stourbridge 3 Rushall 5**

**STOURBRIDGE bowed out of the Birmingham Senior Cup eclipsed by Rushall Olympic's five-star show.**

Pics pulled off a thrilling 5-3 win in extra time in the first round tie at the War Memorial Ground. Glassboys grabbed a fourth minute lead when Luke Benbow headed Brian Smikle's cross into the top corner of the net.

Rushall replied after 33 minutes when Jake Heath played a ball down the right flank which tempted Stourbridge's second string goalkeeper Dominic Hill to dash off his line - but he was beaten to the ball by Ramone Stephens who slotted home to level the scores and really get the contest under way.

**Exchanging**

Stephens then grabbed his second when he fired Rushall in front on 41 minutes after exchanging passes with Steve Leslie.

Stourbridge upped the pace at the beginning of the second half, forcing several corners, and from a free kick just outside the box on 49 minutes Benbow struck a low shot which Pics' keeper Richard Jones did well to push round the post.

Stourbridge kept the tie alive with a dramatic 93rd minute leveller. Skipper Leon Broadhurst was instrumental in setting up the chance for Jordan Fitzpatrick to force home despite the despairing efforts of Pics goalkeeper Richard Jones.

Just two minutes into

**Football**

extra time, Stephens came back to haunt Stourbridge by completing his hat-trick when he belted home a low cross from Heath and put the Pics in the driving seat.

But Stourbridge again hit back to level things up when Josh Morgan-Parker pounced on a rebound after Shane Grainger's shot was parried.

He rifled in a low angled shot which Jones could only push out into the path of Josh Morgan-Parker who pounced to score from two yards out and keep the game alive for the Glassboys.

However, it proved to be no avail as Rushall finished the stronger side, wrapping up the tie with two goals both of which came from Aaron Williams.

The Olympics player headed home a Chris Taylor corner on 115 minutes to give his side the lead.

Then four minutes later, Williams struck again from another Taylor corner after Glassboys goalkeeper Hill had mistimed an attempted clearance punch and he ended up putting the ball in the net to seal the game for Rushall.



Luke Benbow put the Glassboys on the scoreboard first but they eventually went down to Rushall

## Winter running success

FOLLOWING on from his win in the Birmingham League, Dudley & Stourbridge Harriers' Lee Slater continued his great winter season.

This time the club runner came up with an excellent 16th place in the Telford 10k race.

With more than 850 runners, Lee ran a Personal Best time of 31min 9 seconds to achieve this fantastic result.

Other Dash runners were Dave Nation 96th with 35.16 and young Elliot Jones, who at 15 ran a fine PB of 36.45 for 128th place.

In the West Midlands Young Athlete Cross Country race at Warley, brother and sister Tom and Grace Slater, no relation to Lee, both had good runs.

Tom was fifth in the under-13 boys' race and Grace had her best run of the winter for 13th place in the under-13 girls' race.

Tom was well backed up by Adam Bodin 23rd and Harry Walters 45th. One further result was that from Emmie Corbett who was first home for Dash in the under-11 girls race where she came in placed 27th.

## Spireites must replay MK Dons

THE FA has ruled Chesterfield must replay their FA Cup second-round tie with MK Dons.

The Spireites beat the Dons 1-0, but after the game admitted a charge of fielding an ineligible player, George Margreitter.

Margreitter played despite not completing the necessary paperwork.

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